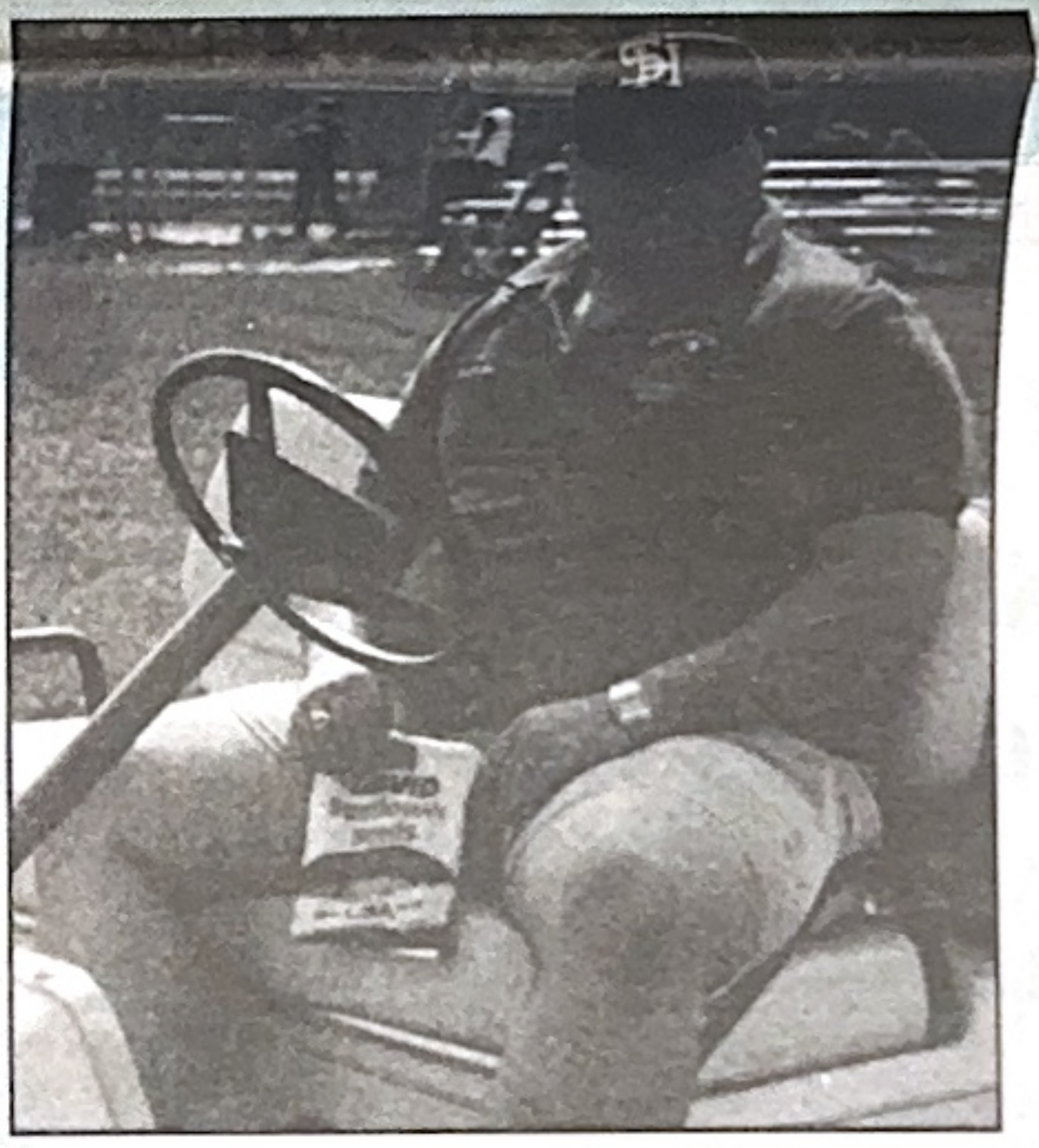
VOLUME 66 · ISSUE 6 MAY 9, 1996

SHAKERITE

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL · 15911 ALDERSYDE DRIVE · SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

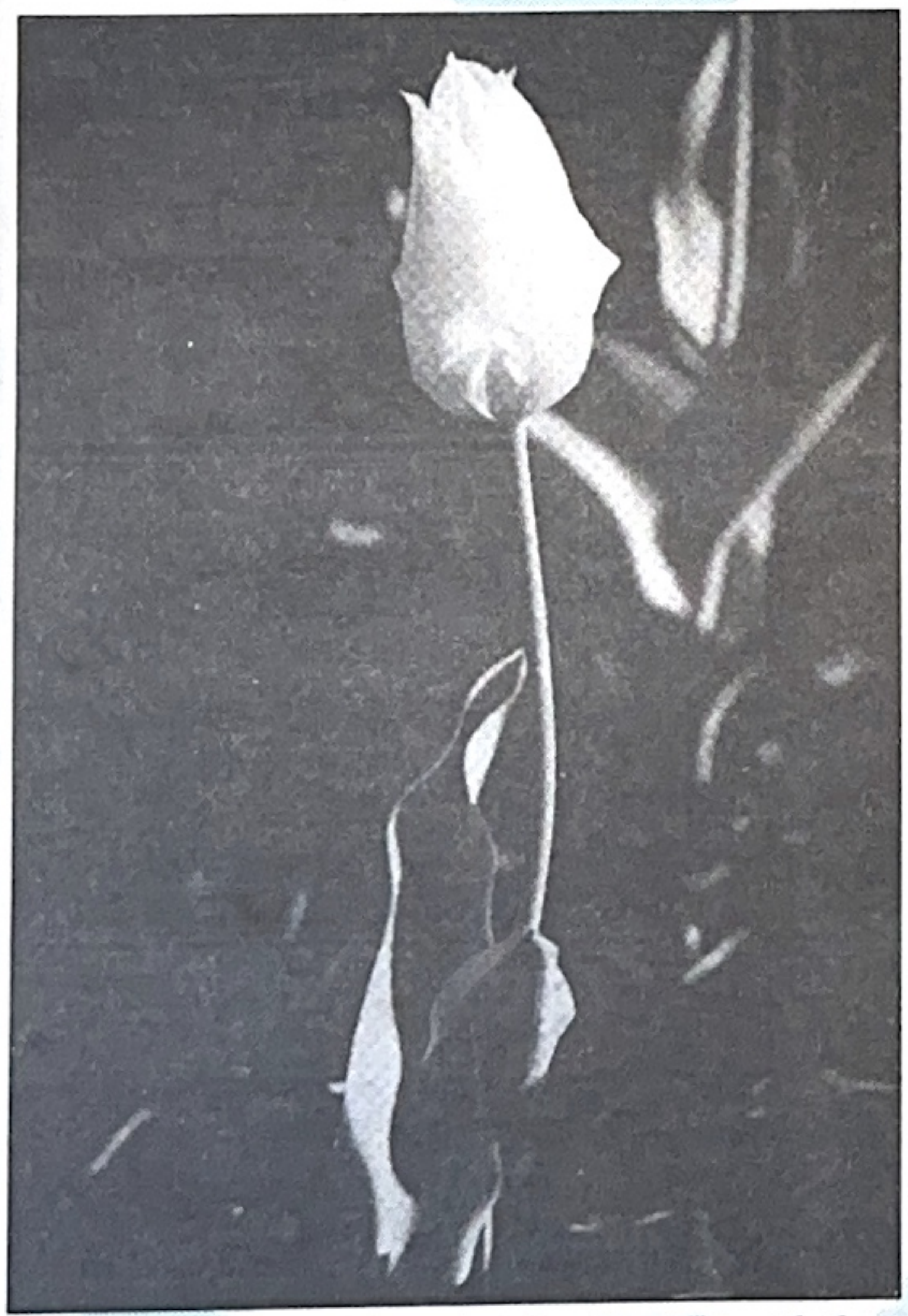
Juniors Tempe Hubbard and Holly Hukill enjoy their lunches outdoors.

photo by Sarah Kramer



Trainer Bob snacks on sunflower seeds at the baseball field.

Spring in Shaker



April showers have brought May flowers to Shaker.

Bare feet tapping a beat on the street in the heat.

Shakerite photos by Iahn Gonsenhauser

Tales of a Shaker student's Friday Night:

First, I went to meet my friends at Arabica. When I got there, my friends wasn't there yet, so I went in to buy a cafe mocha. While I was in line, I saw my friends meeting outside. I tried to get out there as fast as I could, because my friends had some hype information on parties goin' on.

Continued on page 4

Forstag publishes research, sparks response from media, administrators

BY SCOTT FULLER
Co-Sports Editor

Cindy Forstag, parent of a high school sophomore, submitted a 30-plus report last month titled "Weapons and Violence in the Shaker Heights City Schools." It was submitted to the school administration following a 13-month inquiry about this issue. This in-depth, well-documented study has brought to light concerns that have come to appear on the front page of the Sun Press, the television news, and has been on the lips of many parents and students in the school system.

Forstag claims still more documents are missing, but Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh says none are missing from the high school, and the Board of Education promises there is no need to worry about the whole thing. One might call the dilemma a "fight," but that would only serve to increase Shaker's ever-rising reputation as a community with a violent school system.

"I have written this report because I believe that all parents in Shaker Heights are entitled to know what happens in our schools, and to know how our administration has responded to incidents affecting the fundamental safety and well being of our children," Forstag writes.

She cites her interest beginning after her son witnessed one assault and was a victim of another in 1993.

To conduct her research, Forstag obtained 653 disciplinary reports during the years 1990-1995 from school Treasurer and Records Custodian Daniel Wilson. From these Forstag has made the following conclusions:

✔ Documented incidents involving weapons in the Shaker Schools have risen by 400 percent. There were 7 weapons incidents in '91 and 28 in 1995.

✔ Documented numbers of suspensions have risen from 29 in '91 to 168 in '95.

✔ Documented numbers of expulsions has risen from 21 in '91 to 46 in '95.

✔ Students have not gotten the message that violence is not acceptable in our schools.

✔ Neither the Administration nor the Board of Education have sent a clear message to students or to this community that violence and weapons will not be tolerated in our schools.

✔ Reports to the superintendent regarding serious incidents involving weapons which are required by law, are not documented.

✔ Only summary numbers of suspensions and expulsions are being reported to the State. (EMIS Report) The accuracy of these numbers is in question.

✔ There is no attempt at the Central Administration to monitor the types of violations committed. No one is monitoring numbers of weapons violations. Trends are not being evaluated.

✔ There is no way to evaluate the effectiveness of disciplinary responses.

✔ Decisions regarding expulsions are being made informally by the superintendent.

✔ The administration has kept the community in the dark about incidents involving weapons.

✔ The administration is unwilling, and/or unable to be accountable to this community for the measures and procedures used in dealing with student offenders.

✔ Records pertaining to suspensions and expulsions, which are required by law, are not being maintained in a responsible manner.

Rumbaugh admits to the accuracy of the investigation, but questions the interpretation.

"I don't contest the numbers, for one thing," Rumbaugh said. "There are some kids who we've asked for a suspension and expulsion, and in the process of setting up the hearing for the expulsion, the family moves, or the child moves from mother or dad to grandparent or there's a divorce issue... And when there's a withdrawal done, that's not a discipline issue, that's just a withdrawal. And if in fact there's been a withdrawal we usually stop the expulsion process. You don't expel a kid who's withdrawn. That, in my mind, that is where the missing records would be."

Forstag recommends the school system monitor trends of violations being committed. It should evaluate the current effectiveness of disciplinary measures employed, a policy of zero tolerance should be adopted concerning weapons in our schools, emphasis must be placed on improving student achievement because a correlation has been suggested between poor academic performance and poor behavior and parents need to be kept informed.

Perhaps generating even more controversy about this issue than the report itself is the sensationalism of the local news. The administration is having difficulty assuring people that Shaker is a safe community following television and newspaper reports that many people feel are giving the schools an unfair reputation.

President of the Board of Education Marvin A. McMickle and Superintendent Mark Freeman sent out a letter to all parents assuring the safety of students at school.

"Of course, the safety of students and staff members has always been and continues to be of paramount importance to all of us," the letter wrote. "At school, we strive to teach students how to peacefully resolve conflicts and we are vigilant in our efforts to keep them safe from harm."

Student Council holds elections

BY TOMMY GELEHRTER
Staff Reporter

Student Council officers and members are once again preparing for elections.

Candidates for class officers and student council positions turned in their applications last week and campaigning is underway. Primary elections, if necessary, will take place on May 14, with final elections taking place on May 22 during homeroom. Each class will have a mandatory all-class assembly on May 20 to listen to their classmates points of view before casting their ballots.

Student council faculty advisor Pattie Lawrence feels this year's success will play into next years turnout.

"We had a lot of kids this year and all of the ones that worked hard and played a big roll are returning," Lawrence said.

Currently the freshman have the smallest turnout of applications. Due to the small turnout of freshman applications the all-class assembly may not be necessary. The sophomore and junior assemblies will still take place due to a larger turnout of applications.

Chairman of Curriculum and Instruction William Newby said he is very pleased with the success of student council and said a lot of students do not realize all of the work the students put into it.

"The kids work very hard and I am very proud of them," Newby said. "They do a lot of work that people do not know about and unlike past years they have a continuing presence."

Some of the many projects they have worked on include the following; the school parking problem, homeroom, talent show, dances, the constitution, and working with faculty committees.

Shaker students' fashion to be showcased in Seventeen Magazine

BY CAITLIN MASINI
Staff Reporter

On August 27th, the world will see a showcase of the great style of Shaker students in Seventeen magazine.

Seventeen Magazine's Special Projects Editor Susan Swimmer and her crew of photographers and make-up artists came to the high school April 17-19 to choose and photograph students. The students will be featured in the "School Zone" section of the August 27th issue of the magazine. This section appears every issue and focuses on high schools around the country with students that have great style.

"Cleveland is a part of the country we had not done before and I had previously heard about Shaker. [We picture] good academic schools with diverse student bodies, which Shaker is," Swimmer said.

Students were approached in the cafeteria on the seventeenth as to whether or not they were interested in being a part of the project. In some cases whole lunch tables were chosen and other times, people were chosen individually.

"We were looking for a combination of kids with great style and kids doing something different," Swimmer said.

One student picked was sophomore Adam Cole-Kelly.

"It was an exciting experience. I know they felt bad because they said they wished they could use everyone. They did not just choose the best looking people, but they tried to represent all of the different styles of Shaker," Cole-Kelly said.

Approximately eighty students were chosen and photographed and almost all of them will be used in an eight spread on Shaker students. Shaker is the only Cleveland school being showcased.

"It's hard to have individual style, but personal style is pretty cool. You can have fun with what you wear, especially in schools like Shaker where there is not a dress code," Swimmer said.

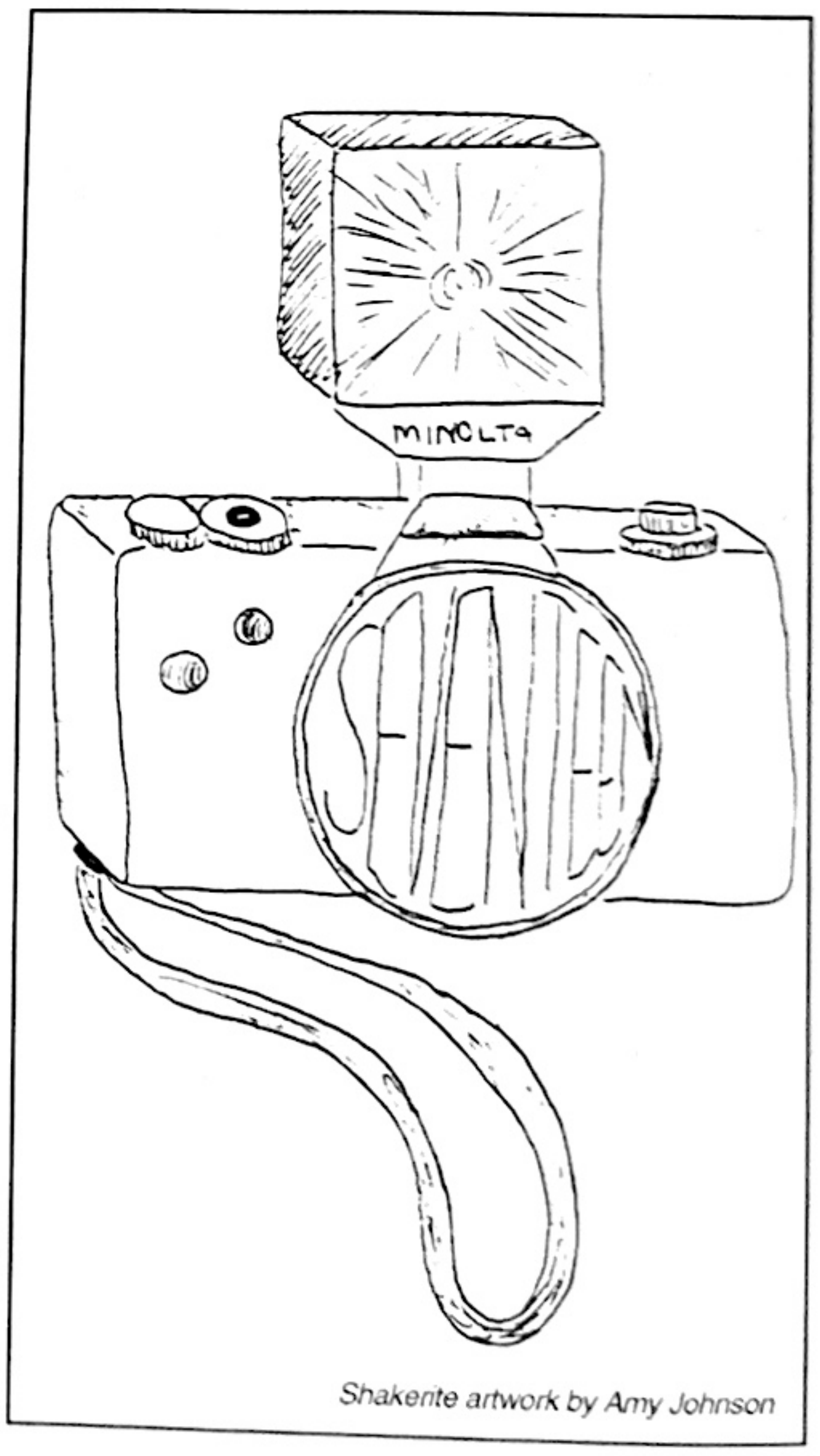
Sophomores Melissa Williams and Angela Goodwin were chosen for their great individual style. They said the experience was rare and enjoyable.

"It [getting chosen] was unexpected and exciting. It was definitely worthwhile to get the opportunity even if I do not get into the magazine. Just the photo session was fun," Williams said.

All students, photographed or not had the opportunity to fill out a questionarre about Shaker. They answered questions like what are the coolest classes, what do you think you will be doing twenty years from now, what are some trends at Shaker, and what are popular student hangouts.

Swimmer said she enjoyed working with the Shaker students and only had positive things to say about the high school.

"Shaker students seem pretty happy to be here and in school, which is unusual. You all also seem really nice," Swimmer said.



Shakerite artwork by Amy Johnson

Eight Shaker teachers retire after 197 total years of teaching

As another school year comes to a close, we must bid goodbye to eight teachers who have served Shaker schools with sincere dedication.

Reading Specialist Michael Nash

Nash will retire this year after 30 years of teaching. Twenty of these years have been at the high school. Nash began as an English teacher but found that students needed help with reading. Since he hated grading compositions but loved teaching literature and English, he began to read about methods to teach reading. He became fascinated and changed careers.

"I have enjoyed teaching reading much more than English. I would rather hang by my thumbs over boiling oil than grade compositions," Nash said.

Nash has worked hard to help students overcome the negative mindset which students have about school. He sees it as his job to help students get back on track.

As Nash contemplated retirement, he had a hard time deciding whether or not to leave. After he leaves, the school is not at this time planning to replace his position. Nash said he is bothered by this fact.

"I have always been very gratified by the support of the school board and community. I am seeing that begin to change," Nash said.

Overall, Nash has enjoyed teaching over the years. He does not have one memory which he will carry with him as he leaves, but instead a feeling.

"The situation where you are with students and you make a connection...you see something in those student's eyes. There is a rush, a sense of accomplishment," Nash said.

–Emily Hoffman

History teacher Keith Horstman

After 32 years of teaching, eighth grade social studies teacher Keith Horstman says, "It's time to move on."

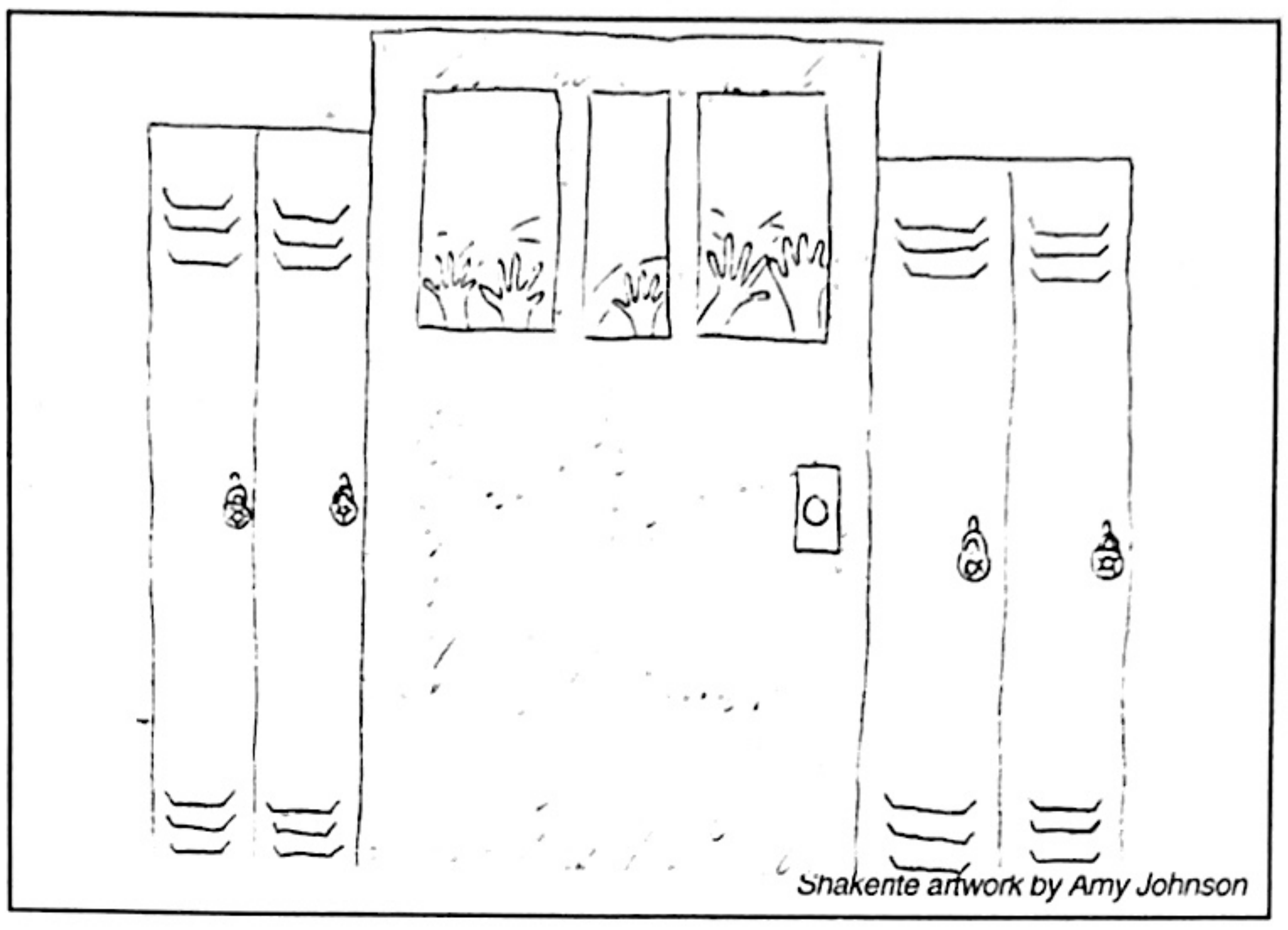
Horstman has taught at Shaker for 28 years and says the quality of the kids and families are what he will miss the most.

"Do not get me wrong, though. I am not retiring. Retiring would mean I am getting old. I am just taking an extremely long break from teaching," Horstman said.

The continuous story of United States history is Horstman's favorite aspect of teaching. He also enjoys making students more aware of the events that molded the country in which they live.

Horstman plans to spend his future free time babysitting his two-year-old and nine-month-old grandsons and doing other odd jobs.

–Niki Dorsky



Shakerite artwork by Amy Johnson

Music teacher Shirley Kilpatrick

Middle School vocal music teacher Shirley Kilpatrick signs autograph books for her students with the inspirational words, "Always keep a song in your heart."

Kilpatrick has been teaching in the Shaker system for 26 years and also taught a year in Oklahoma City and in the Cleveland Public Schools. Her most memorable moment was in '74 when Moreland School put on the African fable, "How the Animals Dug a Well."

Her retirement plans begin as soon as this school year ends with a trip to Europe. After her trip, she looks forward to spending time with her children and grandchildren and sleeping in late.

–Carole McElrath

Reading teacher Gail Rose

"It always counts to do your best" is the advice Middle School reading teacher Gail Rose gave to all her students through out her years of teaching.

Rose started her teaching career at the Middle School in '69. For Rose, teaching consisted of many special moments, but the most special was when former students returned to thank her for advice.

–Lauren Dicks

Guidance couselor Grace DiDomenico

Grace DiDomenico is retiring after 25 years as a Middle School guidance counselor and 32 years in education. Now she and her husband can devote more tjme to running the Heritage Hills Compground.

DiDomenico said she most fondly will recall the students and teachers with whom she has worked.

–Laura Curtiss

Fifth grade teacher Mary Ann Mahoney

Fifth grade teacher Mary Ann Mahoney is retiring after 25 years of teaching at Shaker.

Mahoney said the friendly and exciting atmosphere has kept her at Shaker. Sophomore Kathryn Tynes said Mahoney's teaching helped her greatly for the future.

"She always made me want to learn, and then she did a good job teaching it to us," Tynes said.

–Tom Gelehrter

Lomond teacher Carolyn Booker

For the last 28 years, Carolyn Booker has been an asset to the Lomond community.

For Lomond principal Dr. Lawrence Svec, Booker's commitment to the school has been a benefit to the entire school system.

"It is very special, and a pleasure of mine to have a senior teacher so committed to education and willing to change for the best," Svec said.

–Geoff Dietrich

Sixth grade teacher Leila Brode

Leila Brode has served Shaker for 19 years of teaching. She has taught in Mercer and Woodbury schools. She began team teaching the sixth grade with sixth grade teacher Marcia Jaffe 3 years ago.

"I think it has been a real treat for the kids to see two very good friends functioning together it is like a family with Leila and I at the head," Jaffe said.

–Phil Toomajian

NEWS BRIEFS

Prom ticket prices increase

The cost of prom has increased five dollars per person because of change of venue and an increase in inflation.

Shaker prom, held previously at the Crawford Auto Museum, was moved to The Natural History Museum. The Crawford Auto museum was booked for the '95-'96 prom season before '94-'95 prom had ended. Shaker did not beat the rush.

Although the cost was significantly more than the auto museum, the '96 senior class had more in their treasury than seniors in the years past, thus making the Natural History museum affordable.

"At the beginning of this year our class had almost three thousand dollars. That's a lot more than any senior class has had in a while. So, with that extra money and the five dollars extra on each ticket, we got a buffet for prom and the Natural History Museum," senior Akil Hameed said.

Thus, a buffet was also included in the prom bid and is available to everyone, which was reason to increase the price of a bid.

Secondly, inflation increased the cost of prom overall. Mrs. Sarah Cox, senior advisor said even the cost of ballons doubled this year. She said the price of decorations increased.

-Anne Zrenda

Shakerite staff positions announced for '96-'97 school year

The *Shakerite* staff for the '96-'97 school year has been selected, and we would like to congratulate them. They are: Editors-in-Chief juniors Miles Berger and Scott Fuller; News Editors sophomore Caitlin Masini and junior Nawal Atwan; Opinion Editors juniors Marie Frisof and Jessica Weeks; Arts and Entertainment Editors juniors Brendan Masini and Ned Sackman; Centerpiece Editors juniors Leslie Simon and Nicole Sutcliffe; Feature Editors sophomore Toby Bulloff and junior Rachel Zinn; Sports Editors sophomores Laura Curtiss and Tom Gelehrter; Business/Advertising/Infographics junior Rebecca Marshall; Photography Editor sophomore Iahn Gonsenhauser.

Good luck to next year's staff. We have confidence in their abilities and wish them a great year.

-Debbie Libman and Seema Shah

So long to all the seniors going on project. Good luck and thanks for the parking spaces.

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Continued from page 2.

On my way out, though, a large man said "wuzzup," to me and got all up in my grille, so I replied "WORD." Then the man, who happened to be homeless, started trying to sell me a *Homeless Grapevine* newspaper. It looked kind of phat, so I picked on up. But by this time my friends had left, and I was without a ride. Man, I was mad as a hornet who had just been played. I thought to myself, "Man, this is whack."

...continued on page 7

Sun Press and local television misguided

THE RITE IDEA

When the words 'school' and 'violence' are linked together as the central concept of a sentence, phrase, or idea, images of school entrances adorned with metal detectors and security guards reminiscent of bad F.B.I./detective movies are unavoidable. They create in the collective public mind two possible, interchangeable scenarios: that of the police-state high school run with a type of grim military efficiency, or a dangerously chaotic institution promoting the corruption of 'innocent' children and furthering the imminent destruction of those already verging on self-immolation in the flames of anti-social behavior.

Neither of these imaginary situations, however, even comes close to representing the true experience of high school students and faculty. That the *Sun Press* and local channels 19 and 43 found it necessary to promote these stereotypes after the release of Cindy Forstag's *Citizen's Report: Weapons and Violence in the Shaker Heights City Schools* is a measure of both their close-minded attitude toward young people and their shoddy reporting technique. Sensationalizing a small amount of violence in Shaker schools only serves to increase sales or temporarily raise ratings; however, it neither addresses the issue of student violence nor promotes positive action by the community to rectify these problems.

Students and faculty will readily admit that our schools are not entirely free of violence, but few of us attend school in a state of terror, as implied by the *Sun Press* report. Most Shaker students feel safe in school, on the way to school and returning from school. Physical violence rarely interrupts classroom education, and weapons, though present, are not a factor in everyday life at the high school.

Cindy Forstag's *Citizen's Report: Weapons and Violence in the Shaker Heights City Schools* attempts to address the issue of increasing school violence before it seriously affects the quality of education at Shaker.The facts presented are alarming– a 400 percent increase of incidents involving weapons over the last five years is a trend that cannot be ignored.One thing Forstag fails to take into account is the relative magnitude of the problem: with a conservative estimate of 5,200 students in the district, 28 incidents involving weapons in '94-'95 involves slightly more than one-half of one percent of Shaker students. This compares favorably to the crime rate in the rest of society.

One valuable conclusion of Forstag's report is that "maintenance of records...is seriously deficient. There appears to be neither effort nor means by which the administration could monitor or evaluate the effectiveness of disciplinary measures." In order to prevent both future sensationalized media uproar and future disciplinary problems in the school, it should be the Administration's responsibility to monitor trends and evaluate the effectiveness of disciplinary action as well as to regularly inform the public of serious incidents and general trends.

Shakerite condemns the *Sun Press* and local channels 19 and 43 for inflammatory and ill-informed reporting, commends Cindy Forstag for her interest and active participation in Shaker schools, recommends that the Administration improve record-keeping technique and communication with Shaker citizens, and rejects the media-perpetuated fallacy that children and teenagers are violent, dangerous human beings.

CHEERS & JEERS

Jeers to snow in April. April flurries bring May... snowblowers?

Cheers to Ensemble for yet another excellent show.

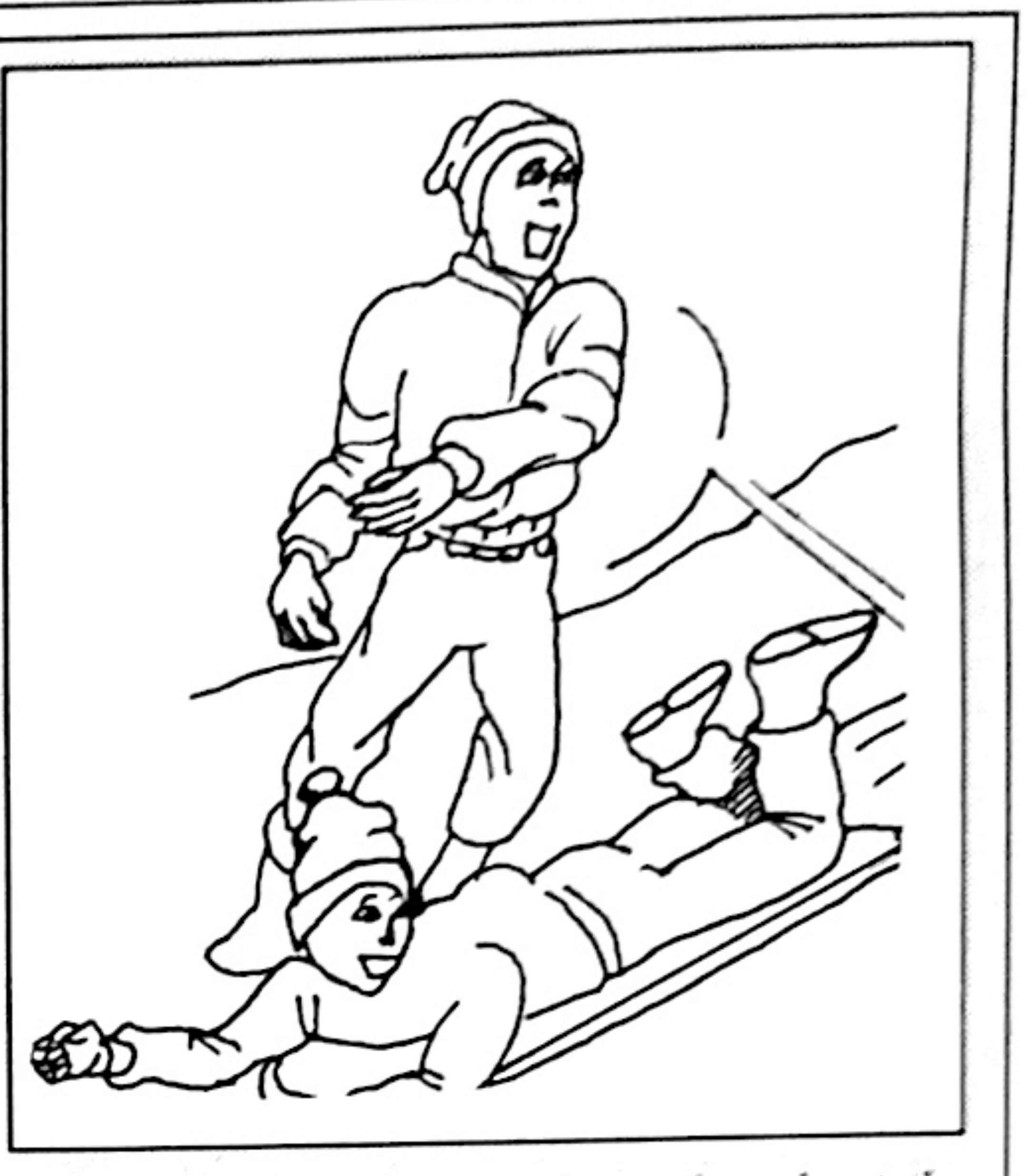
Cheers to Senior prank day.

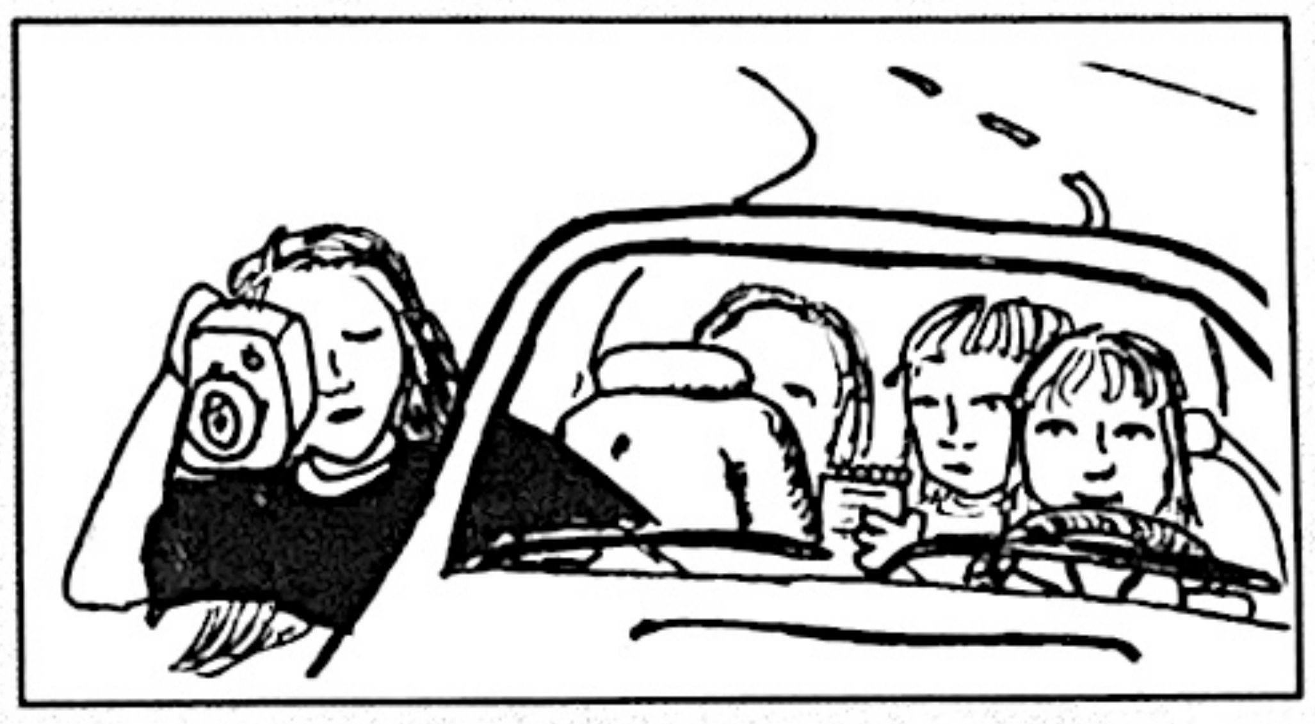
Jeers to SAT testing.

Jeers to the *Sun Press* and Channels 19 and 43 for their sensationalized, shallow and inaccurate reports on violence in Shaker schools. Investigative reporting of that quality will win you an internship at, say, *The National Inquirer*.

Cheers to all high school students. Only a month (and a bit) left to go.

Jeers to finals. Jeers to finals. Jeers to finals. Jeers to finals. Jeers to finals. Jeers to finals. Jeers to finals. Jeers to finals. Jeers to (you get the point)...





Cheers to Cindy Forstag for caring about the schools and taking action.

Cheers to seniors. Fare thee well.

Cheers to Class of '97! Almost there...

Jeers to Class of '00, next year's freshmen. It's never too early to start making fun of them.

Cheers to dandelions.

THE TOP TEN

Top Ten unwritten rules...

10. Always say "sir" or "ma'am" when speaking to an angry teacher, handing in late homework or begging for an extension on last month's term paper.
9. If sleeping in class, be discreet when wiping up drool.
8. Never ask the ingredients or fat content of cafeteria food.
7. Smoking is only permitted in the immediate vicinity of the science-wing exit.
6. Never tell the teacher your dog ate your homework. "My computer crashed" is much more '90s.
5. Never recycle gum from under your desk in math class.
4. In class, always hide Cliff Notes inside the actual text. That bright yellow cover is so obvious.
3. When totally uninformed, draw interesting patterns with your Scantron bubbles.
2. When copying homework, always remember to replace your donor's name with your own.

...and the number one is...

1. Don't expect *Shakerite* Top Ten to be funny.

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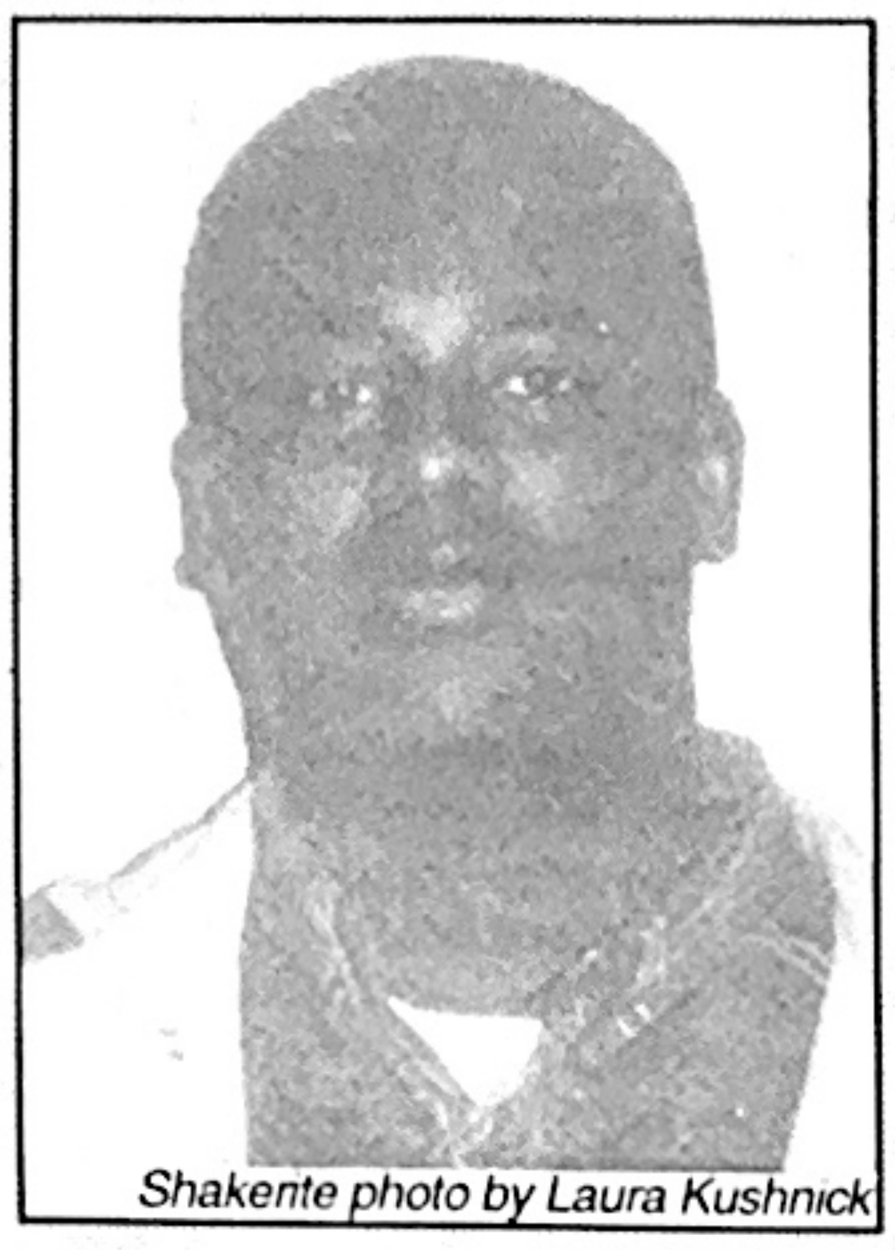


Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

Friends, family and fun all part of high school experience

BY ROBERT DAVIS
Senior

My high school experience. Wow! I've done so much! As I look back on the past four years, the first thing that comes to my mind is: thank goodness it is over!

I remember when I was in the middle school and how badly I wanted to be a high schooler. People in high school were bigger, could stay out longer, were able to drive, and had a chance to go to Senior Prom. People in high school seemed to have a lot more freedom; they could almost say anything they wanted!

My first year in high school was great! Both of my sisters were already here and prepped me for what it was going to be like. They advised me as to which classes to take and who were the best teachers. That year the class of '93 was the senior class and I, along with a host of others, thought they were the best class above us; by comparison, the others were far inferior.

This was also the year when my class seemed to divide. There were many fights and people just seemed to go their separate ways now that there were more grades and more people to associate with. Lately, they've been somewhat cordial to each other.

Some of the people in this school could be summed up in one word: "Phony." They will smile in your face and talk about you behind your back. For a lot of people in this school having other people talk about them seemed to be a big deal. I found it funny that people felt it was so important to be in other people's business or start rumors about what they thought someone was doing – of course, without proof. I could not believe the people they were talking about could care! After four years, you will probably never see these people again, so why jump off the deep end for them? These people aren't paying your bills, buying your clothes, putting a roof over your head or putting food in your mouth, so do not pay them any attention.

At Shaker you are here for one reason: to get an education, not to care about what other people think of you.

My high school experience has been rewarding and at times difficult, but I am glad it is over. I feel that I am now ready to move on to higher education and be out on my own, thanks to my experiences at Shaker.

One piece of advice: keep the friends that you have now and always keep in touch with them because that's all that really matters. They will be your friends until the end.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Long-time soccer coach retires

To the editor:

I would like to take the opportunity of my retirement from coaching soccer and my induction on May third into the Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Hall of Fame to express my appreciation to the Shaker Heights High School community. I especially want to thank Associate Athletic Directors Joe Katzenstein and Jill Allen for their help and support with the women's soccer program during the last five years. I especially want to thank Jerry Masteller, the Athletic Director, for his support and guidance for most of my twenty-nine years of coaching men's and women's soccer at Shaker Heights High School. I would also like to recognize the parents of all of the men's and women's teams for their encouragement in the beginning of the two programs and with their help in sustaining the growth of each program. Yet, most of all I want to say a thank you and a job well done to all of the players on all of the teams since '67. You have each given me so many memories that I will enjoy recalling the autumn afternoons spent with you on the playing fields from Lomond to Boulevard to Woodbury.

There is no doubt that both teams have come a long way since they began. The boys began with 104 eager players and no goals on their practice field for most of the first year. And the girls began with eleven determined untested players in a scrimmage against Willoughby South on one of the hottest days of August in '90. The players in both programs never looked back. They were all always interested in improvement.

May both programs continue to enjoy the rewards of their improvement. I will look forward to their games each fall.

-Baird Wiehe, Varsity Women's soccer coach, psychology teacher

Shakerite *fails to recognize student achievement*

To the editor:

The responsibility of a good school newspaper is not only to entertain, but to inform. The entertainment value of *Shakerite* is at times questionable, but generally solid. However, I find that the newspaper lacks information about the successes of the students, its own readers. Mentioning sports successes is hardly enough, yet that seems to be all the newspaper bothers to recognize. You do not even know about the success stories the school has produced.

Many of my friends have accomplishments which routinely go unnoticed by the *Shakerite* staff. For instance, Marie Frisof and Kip Britt, an editor and column writer for *Shakerite*, recently won first and second place in a fiction competition at a Pennsylvania college. Marie was also awarded first place in another poetry contest for a Virginia college. The staff has known of Marie and Kip's accomplishments in the past months and yet neglects to recognize them.

Also, this year our Speech and Debate team sent a good number of representatives to the state tournament. Two members of the team, Alex Rawson and Matt Youngner, debated at the City Club and also qualified for the National Speech and Debate tournament. Though Matt and Alex were on every local news station and featured in the *Sun Press* and *The Plain Dealer*, our own newspaper found it sufficient to include only a two sentence blurb about their accomplishments. Yet another example of *Shakerite* misdirection comes to mind. Virginia Pierce, a talented senior, has received notice that she is a possible Presidential Scholar semi-finalist. As of this writing, *Shakerite* has no plan to write an article about her achievements.

The city claims that 'a community is known by the schools it keeps'; in the same vein, schools are known for their students. Since the voice of the students is our school newspaper, we look to you to commend our peers on a job well done. In doing so, we not only celebrate their exceptional accomplishments, but we enhance the perception of our schools and the cohesion of the student body.

-Amrita Ahuja, junior

Senior reflects on past four years

BY DEBBIE LIBMAN
Co-Editor-in-Chief

It was the summer of '92, and I was standing at the door, waiting for my carpool to pick me up for school. I was trembling, and I turned around to look at my mom, who smiled at me reassuringly.

"The next four years will be the best four years of your life," she said.

And, even through all the homework, the tests and the aggravations of finding something to do on Friday night, I realize my mother's words were not far from the truth.

High school is a place to explore more than anything else. We here at Shaker have the opportunity to participate in so many activities and take a tremendous variety of courses, something students at most schools are not lucky enough to do.

Sometimes we take this aspect of our school for granted, and we all have done our share of complaining. But the truth is, we are extremely fortunate to be in an environment where teachers want to teach and students (for the most part) want to learn.

Taking advantage of the opportunities Shaker has to offer makes high school seem like more of a learning experience and less of a hassle. Teachers are available after school to hear students' concerns, the library is full of resources for research papers or pleasure, and the guidance counselors are highly knowledgeable. In addition, there are enough good parking spaces for every student in the school (ha!)

Of all my experiences here, being on the *Shakerite* staff was definitely the most gratifying. It is important to find a niche in such a big school. Whether sports or some other extracurricular activity, a home within the school makes school more worthwhile and a bit less intimidating. I hope I can find the same kind of home in college.

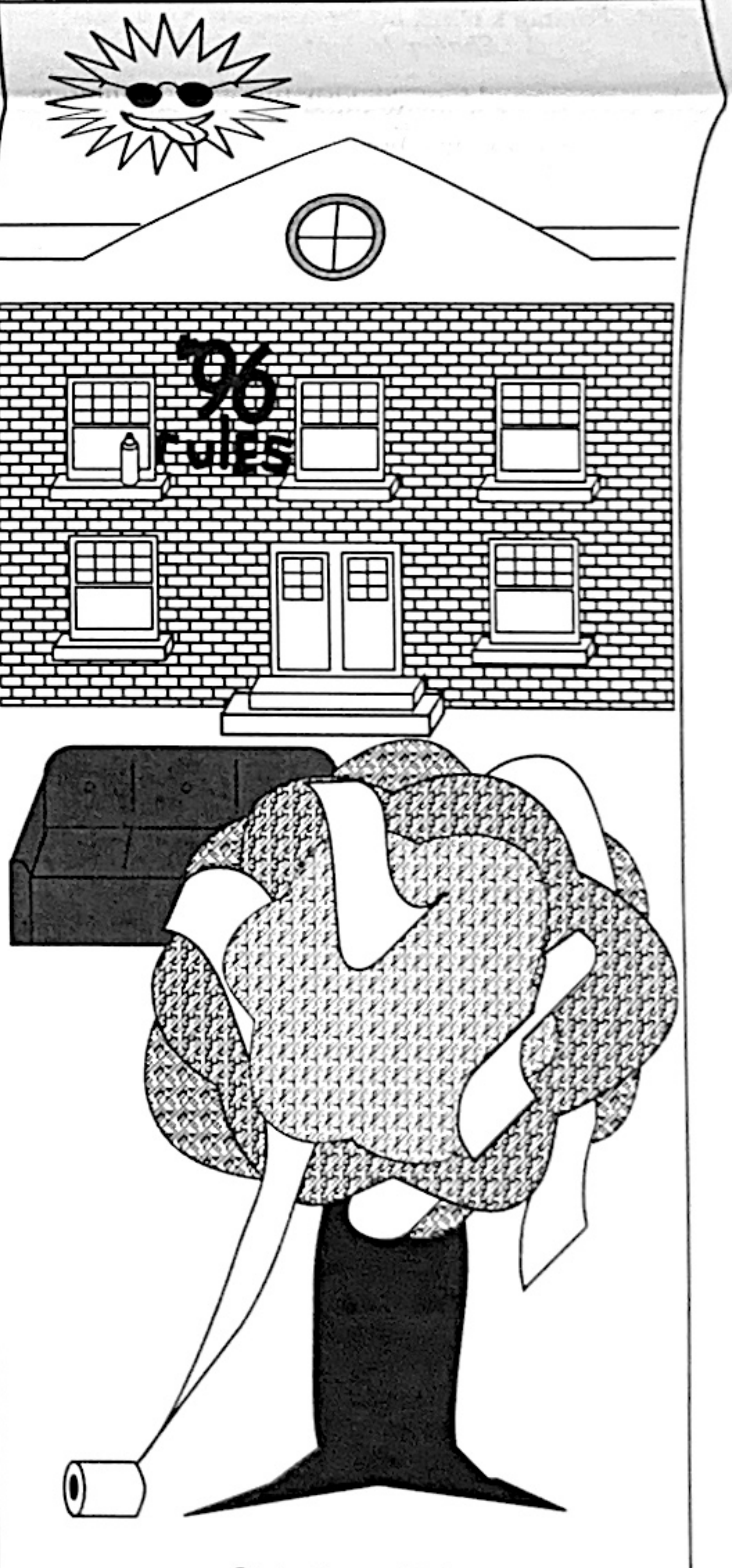
> ***"Taking advantage of the opportunities Shaker has to offer makes high school seem like more of a learning experience and less of a hassle...***

I find myself looking back on the last four years with a great sense of satisfaction. I managed to get over the inhibitions of freshman year, the stress of sophomore year and the tremendous workload of junior year. Now senior year is drawing to a close, and I am thrilled, but at the same time I am little sad (strange as that sounds).

I will actually miss a lot of things when I graduate– my friends, some teachers, and especially *Shakerite*. I'll miss early dismissal days, fire drills, bells between classes, hall monitors and cafeteria food. Well, I might not miss everything, but I know college will be really different. I believe I am ready to leave, however. Shaker has definitely prepared me to go out on my own.

That first day of school in the summer of '92 seems so long ago. But the future holds a lot of challenges and excitement. College is just around the corner, and although I'm a little nervous, my mom says everything will be fine.

"The next four years will be the best four years of your life," she says.



Shakerite graphic by Marie & Rebecca

Rude teachers should get ready to toss their cookies

BY MILES BERGER
Co- A&E editor

"Sit down, shut up, and GIVE me your homework!"

How many times this year have we had to deal with teachers who yell like this?

At Shaker, academics are taken seriously, but that doesn't mean teachers need to be mean. For instance, instead of demanding "GIVE me your homework," they could ask politely. "May I please have your homework?"

The most euphemistic language in the world, however, will not make up for the sinister stares many teachers give off. Many times, while passing through a hallway I have glanced over and seen entire rooms full of supposedly obnoxious, outrageous teenagers shaking with fear after receiving such drop-dead stares. To remedy this problem, an active approach must be taken:

1) The first time a teacher gives a student a mean, sinister or otherwise evil stare, the teacher should have to apologize and give the student a cookie.

2) The second time such a stare is given, the teachers must give the student an entire box of cookies (Chips Ahoy! Quality or better, no generic brands), and the whole class should get a bonus flex night.

3) Finally, the third time such an infraction of the no-mean-stare-rule occurs, the gloves come off. Three strikes and you're out, so this penalty gets a little harsher. The third time a teacher gives the aforementioned student a stare of the aforementioned type, three penalties are incurred.

First, the teacher must get down on their knees, beg the student for forgiveness and perform one of Dave Letterman's stupid-teacher tricks.

Second, the teacher must do that student's homework for the rest of the year.

Third, the teacher must immediately report to the *Shakerite* office, where he or she will have to submit to a humiliating background search and interview, the results of which will be published. Former occupations, bizarre love triangles, nerdy childhood photographs– all will be revealed.

Now, you may be thinking "All of my teachers are so boring, how could you possibly find anything interesting about them?" But nothing could be further from the truth. Teachers may seem boring now, but many of them led very interesting (and embarrassing) former lives.

For instance, history teacher Rhona Pessel was a rebellious hippie at the University of California at Berkeley in the late 60s. We have not been able to find any incriminating pictures of her during this time period, but we did discover that she was a disco dancer during the 70s. In her desk, we found records (yup, the real thing, vinyl) by the Village People, Sly and the Family Stone, and George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic. Pessel keeps a record player in her office, and we have received anonymous reports of her dancing on top of her desk while listening to George Clinton and exclaiming "We need the funk...gotta have that funk."

Orchestra director Michael McDonough is also fond of disco dancing. On this year's choir/orchestra trip to Europe, McDonough beat legions of student and faculty opponents to win the dance contest. Contrary to popular opinion, McDonough was not even inebriated that night of the trip. He said that he did a great deal of disco dancing in the 70s while he was still single, and was recalling good memories when he won the contest.

Math teacher Dennis Hogue also has an embarrassing past. His Boston accent is believed to be real, but we have found out the truth. Twenty years ago, when he was a shy college freshman, Hogue was severely hurt in a frat party fight. After the fight, he decided he needed to become more assertive, so he started using a Boston accent to sound tough, and he started lifting weights. The weight lifting has not done much for him, but the Boston accent makes both teachers and students fear and laugh at Hogue.

However, students shouldn't get too excited about these new rules, because I don't really think they will be implemented any more than I believe Hogue's accent is real.

SHAKER SPEAKS ABOUT VIOLENCE

CINDY FORSTAG USED DOCUMENTS SIMILAR TO THESE TO ASSEMBLE FACTS FOR HER REPORT ON SCHOOL VIOLENCE

"I don't think Shaker is a violent school. Shaker is a safe place. I do not fear for your safety, or for my safety, or for any student's safety. What I do worry about is the way our national media, and obviously our local media...portray teenagers as violent. I'm really worried about the number of adults in America who see children as being violent and threatening and dangerous. I've been doing this work for a long time– twenty-five years– and after all that time, I still love the job that I have, I still love working with kids and teachers, and I'm not afraid."
A. Jack Rumbaugh, principal

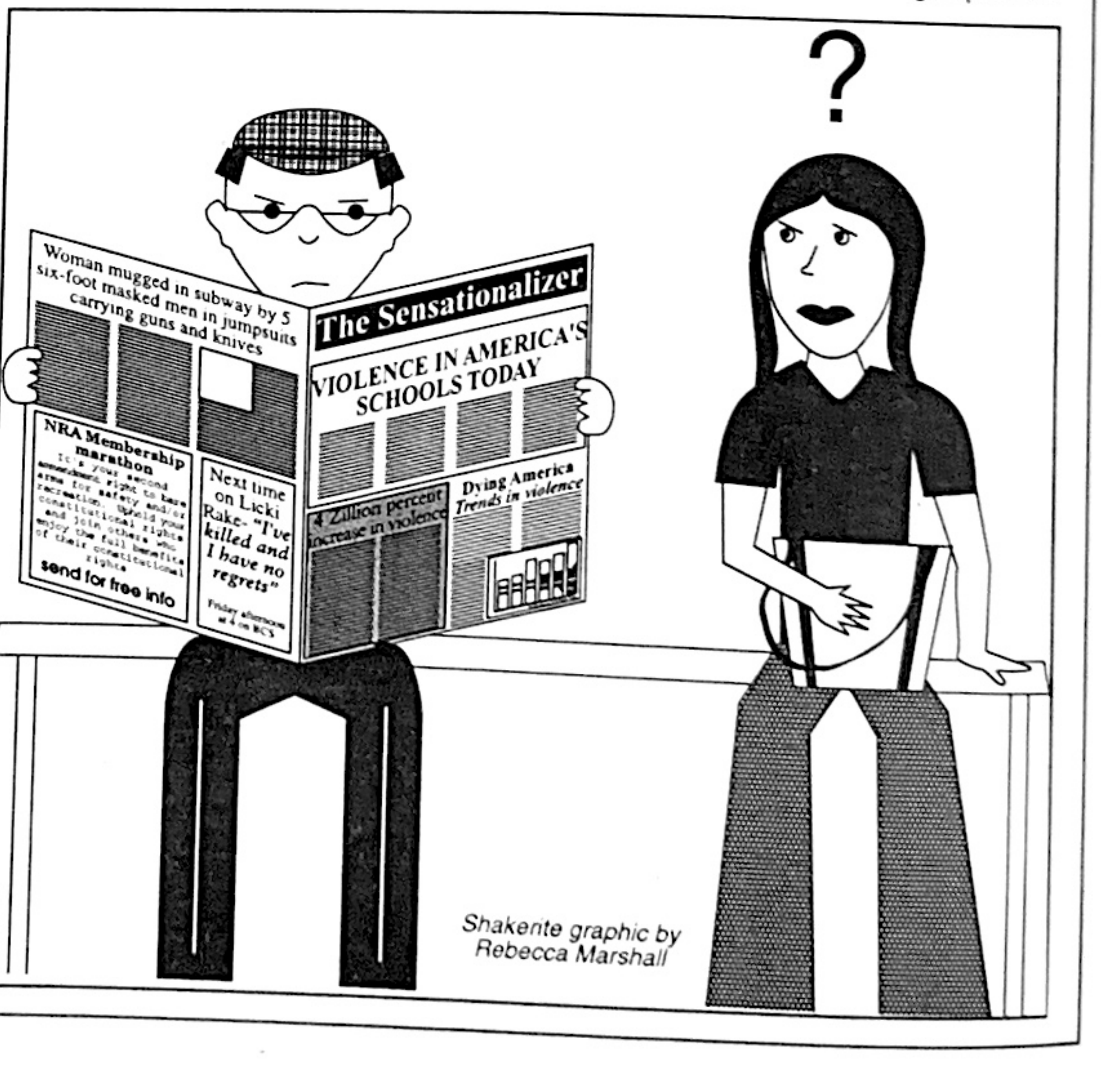
"[Violent acts] are happening, but in Shaker we kind of pretend they aren't happening. A lot of people know it's happening. But our Administration doesn't want to deal with it, and they don't want to acknowledge that we have a problem. If you don't acknowledge that you have a problem, there's no way you can do anything about it; if there is no problem, there is nothing to do. I hope people are looking at the system...I would like to know what happened to these expulsion incidents that have no record, several of which involve weapons violations...I am tired of requesting records."
Cindy Forstag, author, *Citizen's Report*

"I don't think we have a big problem. We need to work together to solve what problems we have; I'm not saying we're perfect here."
Margaret Boles, math teacher

"History is not what happens, it is what people say happens, and I think [the *Sun Press* article] was a good case of hear-say evidence being construed as reality."
Susan McDonald, history teacher

"I don't feel unsafe teaching here. I was a little unsettled last year by the whole incident last year with the Spanish teacher and the knife. That whole incident, was, quite frankly, scary. There were several days after that when I felt uneasy. I don't feel unsafe now but I think it is a problem that we as a school community need to face more head on than we have in the past...As a parent, I can understand why she would want to know what the exact history of violence in Shaker has been."
Mary Ashcraft, German teacher

"I don't feel unsafe, but I do recognize that things are happening in the schools which shouldn't be happening. Kids are bringing loaded guns and knives to school which serve no purpose but to be used."
Ben Forstag, sophomore


?
Woman mugged in subway by 5 six-foot masked men in jumpsuits carrying guns and knives
The Sensationalizer
VIOLENCE IN AMERICA'S SCHOOLS TODAY
NRA Membership marathon
send for free info
Next time on Licki Rake- "I've killed and I have no regrets"
4 Zillion percent increase in violence
Dying America Trends in violence

Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

(Continued from page 4)

I had heard the party was near Shaker and Green, so I took the rapid up towards that side of the hood. By this point though, my hands were shaking like somethin' awful from the caffeine in all the coffee. When the rapid stopped at Green, I fell down because my hands were shaking too much to grab the handrail.

Continued on page 11

Dave Matthews Band CD 'crashes' into record stores

BY LESLIE SIMON
Co-Centerpiece Editor

Dave Matthews Band

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY? Fans of the Dave Matthews Band have a lot to say about their three albums, "Remember Two Things," "Under the Table and Dreaming" and their latest release "Crash."

Ever since the Dave Matthews Band burst on the scene in '92 with "Remember Two Things," they have developed quite a following. Since then, they have released three additional albums; "Recently," a collection of five singles, "Under the Table and Dreaming," the album that gained the band national attention, and their newest release "Crash," which displays the many sides of the band's music.

"Too Much" is the first single off of the new album. Much like their first radio hit "Ants Marching," it is a toe-tapper the general public will like. While it is a good song, it is not an accurate representation of what DMB is capable of producing.

"Crash" is 68 minutes of jazzy, funk-filled jams, packed with the sounds of such instruments as tenor, alto and baritone sax, flute and electric violin. The powerful violins of Boyd Tinsley can be best heard on "Tripping Billies." First released on "Remember Two Things," this cut of the song is full of funk, with a piano background.

One thing that attracts listeners to the band is the fact that they sing about more than just love. It is hard to turn on the radio these days and not hear someone whine about how they lost love and will never find it again. [illegible] While DMB does [illegible] the beach, "Tripping Billies," and the greediness of man, "Too Much."

Another attraction to the DMB is none other than the voice of Dave Matthews himself. It's gentle and rough at the same time. His diversity allows him to sound as gritty as a garage band singer, as in "Drive In Drive Out," or as delicate as a flower, as in "Let You Down." He shows off some of his best chords and lyrics in "Say Goodbye," one of the best tracks on the album. Starting off with a great flute and bongo drum duet, it then sinks into a groove with the addition of the gentle strumming of a guitar, and then finally, Matthews' voice.

Tim Reynolds also joins the band on certain tracks. Reynolds toured with Dave Matthews on a club tour this year. They performed DMB songs in just the company of their two guitars.

When you close your eyes and listen to this album, it is as if you are entering your own little world. You can escape from all of your worries and problems, and let the Dave Matthews Band provide your soundtrack. "Crash" is definately worth a listen. And for those who would like to check out the band this summer, DMB is planning to showcase their talents by joining the H.O.R.D.E. tour, although they will probably not be performing on the Cleveland date. The bill also includes such bands as Blues Traveler, Rusted Root and Natalie Merchant.

Sunny daze at Buzzardfest

BY NED SACKMAN
Staff Reporter

Saturday, May 18, at 1 p.m., WMMS 100.7 FM Buzzard Radio is sponsoring its annnual Buzzardfest alternative rock festival at Blossom Music Center.

Headlining this year's show is Candlebox, who will probably be the last band to play in the evening. Also performing will be Dash Rip Rock, Goldfinger, Holy Barbarians, the Nixons, No Doubt, Patti Rothberg, the Tragically Hip and Universal Honey.

While not exactly Lollapalooza, WMMS has put the festival together in a way that allows people to either go with the purpose of listening to the music or just to hang out with their friends on the lawn and toss a frisbee around. The show is not likely to sell out, but it should draw at least 5,000 people if the weather is nice, so it might be a good place to meet a few people.

Tickets will be available at the gate; $17 for pavilion seats (if there are any left) and $15 for the lawn. Although Bloosom will be lenient about bringing in food, absolutely no beverages will be allowed, and cameras, glass bottles (although why anyone would want to bring in an empty glass bottle since no drinks are allowed anyway is beyond me) and coolers are also prohibited. Incidentally, outside the gates there are usually a number of people trying to drink everything they brought and eat whatever will go bad without a cooler. *It might not be a bad idea to offer to help them finish off their forbidden contraband and maybe bum some free food (or whatever else you need to have a good time).*

Other events at Blossom this summer:

■June 11 – **Chicago**, tickets $41.75/$23.25 Classic 80's Rock (if there is such a thing) and lots of fun to boot.

■June 14 – **Jimmy Buffet**, tickets $56.50/$30.00 Don't forget your cowboy hat!

■June 28 – **Def Leppard** and **Boston**, tickets $42.25/$32.25 More 80's Rock and a drummer with one arm.

■June 29 – **Ozzy Osbourne**, tickets $39.75/$34.25 I've heard he won't start a concert until there are 10 dead puppies on stage.

■July 2 – Further Fest featuring **Bob Weir & Ratdog**, **The Bruce Hornsby Band**, **Hot Tuna**, **Los Lobos**, and the **Flying Karamazov Brothers**, and **Mystery Box** tickets $35.75/$28.75 Definitely worth checking out.

■July 11 –**Meatloaf**, tickets $49.25/$42.25 Watch the melodramatic rock dinosaur sing his way to an anticlimactic extinction.

■July 17 – **The Steve Miller Band**, tickets $47.25/$27.25 Cool music, and you could even go with your dad.

■July 18 – **Hootie and the Blowfish**, ticket prices unannounced. Watch the most commercially successful band of 1995 support their new album Fairweather Johnson.

■July 23 -**Sting**, tickets $43.75/$23.25 -Another 80's legend (is there a theme this summer at Blossom?) but this time there's no Police.

For tickets to all of these shows, call Ticketmaster at 241–5555.

'Score' one for the Fugees

BY MILES BERGER
Staff Reporter

LIVIN LARGE. The Fugees keep it real on the jacket of their 1996 release, "The Score."

Back in the days of ancient Rome, as muses strummed their lyres and chanted their poetry, music had the purpose of telling a story, provoking thought or expressing serious emotions. In more recent years, however, music by some rap groups has been perverted into a glorification of violence, drugs and sexist attitudes towards women.

This trend, however, has come to end though with the release of the Fugees' new album "The Score." Not only do the Fugees' lyrics show a social consciousness far superior to the pitifully childish and irresponsible boastings of most rap groups, the music behind their words is also a breath of fresh air.

The songs on the album are diverse. From the boisterous rapping of "Fu-Gee-La," to the weeping guitar licks and melancholy vocals of "Mista Mista," it is clear the Fugees have their own agenda, both musically and politically.

The Fugees' popularity results largely from the musical strength of its members Lauryn Hill, Wyclef "Clef" Jean and Prakazrel "Pras" Michel. Each member gives the group a different strength: Hill's R&B style makes tracks like "Killing Me Softly," come alive, while Jean's guitar playing lays the emotional groundwork for songs like "Mista Mista." Both Jean and Michel's rapping give in–your–face style intensity to tracks like "Fu–Gee–La," and "The Score."

Despite this rap intensity, the Fugees' musical roots go back much further than just the last Dr. Dre album. "The Score," includes a modernized, urban–style cover of Bob Marley's unforgettable "No Woman, No Cry," and they have covered everyone from John Lennon to Run DMC in concert.

These diverse influences are what give the Fugees yet another edge over ordinary rap groups– their songs (and their beats) never sound manufactured or repetitive because their sound has such a wide foundation. For instance, Hill shifts effortlessly between hard–core rapping and smooth R&B crooning a la Aretha Franklin. Jean is a skilled keyboardist, guitarist and singer, as well as a great rapper.

The Fugees' lyrics, like their music, show a range of influences that most other rap groups lack. Their work touches on themes of racial hositility, street violence and drug abuse without advocating them. By addressing these issues in an intelligent, coherent manner, their lyrics are more powerful than all of the boasting and "fronting" of all of the cheap rap groups combined.

All of these tasty morsels, mixed with a generous helping of bass, make "The Score" one of the best rap albums in recent years. Score this one today.

KIP'S PIKS

Kip's Piks will not be featured this month.

Twin Peaks: *Two juniors share a summer adventure*

BY NED SACKMAN
Staff Reporter

As I wondered if we would ever get there, the bus pulled to the side of the road for what I thought was a bathroom stop. I soon discovered that my bathroom stop was Colorado Outward Bound's base camp.

Behind a small forest, three pitch tents were scattered in a valley between two towering mountain ranges. A sputtering pickup truck and a pile of stock equipment rounded out the camp.

As people slowly collected their things from the bus and made their way into the camp, I could feel a sense of curious anxiety in the crowd. Conversations turned to mumbled whispers and macho confidence crumbled to real apprehension.

The group of 30 strangers was quickly separated into three patrols of 10. We were introduced to our instructors, and the patrols split up to hand out equipment. The instructors seemed to be the only ones paying attention because everyone else was in awe of the majestic mountains stretching out around them. We felt like we had fallen into a cheesy postcard.

For the next two weeks we were treated to experiences and opportunities unique to anything we had done before. Although we devoted one day to rock climbing (much tougher than it looks!), most of our time was spent hiking up and over mountains (if we were not trying to catch our breaths on the side of the trail, that is). Everyone was responsible for carrying a sixty pound pack on his or her back. It was rigorous work but nothing to go home over.

> *"Whether helping cook dinner or putting up the tent, everyone had a chance to work together and know each other intimately."*

The best part of the program was the chance to build lasting relationships with the other people on your patrol. It is part of the Outward Bound system that people must work together to survive. Whether helping cook dinner or putting up the tent, everyone had a chance to work together and know each other intimately. Within the last month I have heard from seven of the eight other people I met at Outward Bound.

Along with the lasting relationships come lasting memories. How time is spent depends mostly on where you go. If you choose a mountaineering course, you will do a good amount of hiking and climb at least one peak. In a whitewater rafting course you can navigate challenging waters, and in a sailing course you will get to go to the bathroom in front of everyone in your patrol because it is such a small ship. Wherever you are, the instructors have surely planned something new and exciting for everyone.

The experience I had was extremely positive, but realize that Outward Bound is not for everyone. You must have an open mind and a compromising nature to get along with the people you will meet. But, if you think you want to accept the challenge, I am sure it will be a valuable experience. One small piece of advice: make sure you have comfortable boots. You will do *a lot* of walking.

BY STEVE DEOREO
Staff Reporter

Hundreds of miles from civilization, 4,000 feet above sea level, and three weeks from my most recent shower. Sounds like a drag? Not even close.

Last summer, I got on a bus with 12 other students and three instructors and bounced up dirt roads until the snow kept us from going any farther. When we got out, we were committed to stay in the Wyoming back-country for 28 days. Lucky for me I did not comprehend what I had gotten into, or I would have run right back to Cleveland.

N.O.L.S courses stress leadership above all else, so they taught me to cope in countless situations. Our instructors began immediately to prepare us by teaching the basics– setting up a fly (a kind of light tent) and cooking on a small gas stove. Then, of course, was the hygiene lecture; always cooking with clean hands, facing 30 days without a shower, and learning to love snow as an excellent toilet paper substitute.

The best thing about this trip was the outdoor classroom setting. Instead of reading an ecology book, we could stand in the midst of the mountain eco-system and see it work. We were forced to read maps correctly by being responsible for getting to our next destination. On one hike, two friends and I wandered in circles for almost two hours within a mile of our camp because we were relying too much on the map rather than on our common sense. Lesson learned, I assure you.

The instructors were behind us all the way. They wanted to share their love of the outdoors with us by teaching us to survive the worst conditions and enjoy the best, but sometimes their methods were frustrating. After the first few days, if we asked them which way to go, they'd say something like "Oh, I don't know, why don't you tell me." Of course they knew exactly where to go, but they let us wander until dark so we could learn how to travel.

Besides all these technical skills, the most important lesson I learned was self-reliance. Being 16 years old, I thought I had the whole world figured out and that I could set out on my own at any time. Who needed parents? Well, I discovered that being my own keeper was harder than I thought. For the first week, I was overwhelmed by everything I had to do to stay alive– cooking for myself, staying warm, and making sure I got up in the morning (Not that easy, seeing as we usually started out at about 4:30 a.m.!). The strain of the work was emotionally draining, but the instructors taught me to overcome my difficulties and enjoy even the hardest days.

I don't want to scare anyone away from a program like N.O.L.S. or Outward Bound, but it is not for everyone. However, learning what it really meant to take care of myself and having other people count on me for assistance was the most empowering thing I have ever done,

Besides hiking and mountain climbing, courses in caving, whitewater rafting, kayaking, horse packing and mountain biking are offered. So whether or not you have any experience, if you are interested in the outdoors, I urge you to check it out. The knowledge I gained helped me through the wilderness, and now it helps me through everyday life.

Call of the Wild

Rock around the clock

LESLIE SIMON
Co-Centerpiece Editor

Ahhhhhhh! Summer is almost upon us. It is a time of relaxation, air conditioning and pool parties. On those hot, humid days we can hardly pick up the remote control to change channels on the tube without getting exhausted. It's hard to believe that while some kids sit around in lounge chairs, slurping up lemonade, other kids are roughing it in the mountains.

A number of students look forward to the summer for completely different reasons. Summer programs like Outward Bound and N.O.L.S.(National Outdoor Leadership School) attract the interests of many students. For these select brave souls, it is a time to explore the great rivers and mountain ranges in our country.

These programs offer such activities as hiking, whitewater rafting, skiing, biking, sailing, canoeing, repelling, and rock climbing. The locations of these trips range from Oregon to Wyoming, Alaska to Australia, and everywhere in between. Other programs of the same nature include America's Adventure, Wilderness Adventures and Browne-Ladd.

Despite the rigorous itinerary, kids enjoys these programs. Senior Jane Calfee explained the attraction to these wilderness journeys.

"I wanted something new that I could try. I wanted to get out of Shaker and do things that I was restricted from doing during the year. I'm going to be working for probably the rest of my life, so while my parents are still willing, I would like to see as much as I can," Calfee said.

Junior Linsey Molloy has gone on these "adventures" for the past three summers and is planning another excursion this summer. After traveling to Washington, Wyoming and the Colorado Rockies, Molloy also agrees that she enrolled so she could try something new and look at beautiful scenery at the same time.

Unfortunately, these trips are not just nature strolls where you cook your meals over portable gas stoves. Make sure to realize the restrictions some of these kids had: no soap in the lakes, you had to walk spread out as to not disturb pristine areas, no watches, no toilet paper and no disposal of feminine products. Basically you cannot throw anything away, and whatever you have that is disposable, you have to trek around with you.

"Anything you brought in, you bring right back out," Molloy said.

Despite the corns, sprained ankles, gross food and crusty water, you and your groupmates go through it together, thus causing valuable friendships to form.

"If you were to put us all at the school, we would all have been in different groups and cliques. But because we were in one group working toward one goal, we became best friends," Calfee said.

"It's the people that make the trip. If you make good friends, then it makes it that much better," Molloy said.

Junior Dan Kallete traveled to the South Cascades in Oregon with Outward Bound during the summer between his sophomore and junior years. He explained that many of the kids that sign up for these programs do it for different reasons.

"There were two types of people on the trip. There were those forced to go by their parents and others that wanted to be there. This brought about different levels of motivation causing some disagreements. You were away from your home and your friends, and you had to trust your groupmates with your life," Kalette said.

While on this personal odyssey, kids have a lot of time by themselves. This results in the reevalution of what is really important in life.

"You realize how much you take for granted and how materialiste everything is. You see things in a different way," Calfee said.

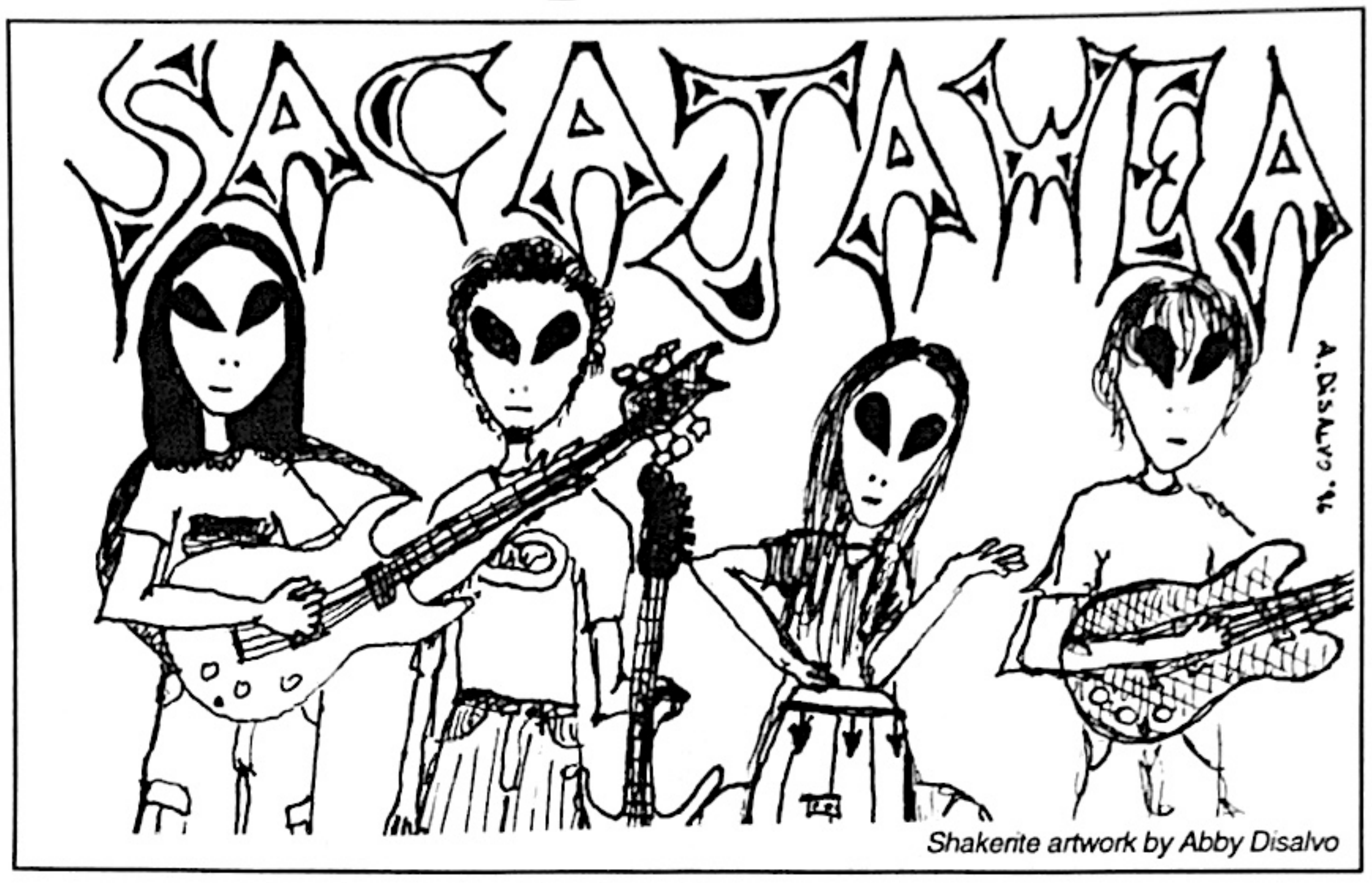
Molloy agreed that the trip caused her to take a good look at her life. She learned things about herself that she never knew.

"Qualities I had were strengthened. I had more endurance, perseverence and determination than I thought I had," Molloy said.

Outward Bound-ish trips prove to be major turning points in their participants lives. While they get in touch with nature, they also get in touch with themselves. So if you get stuck between a rock and a hard place, check out these programs where you can glace at horizons while expanding your own.

Student musician plays, writes using feelings

BY NED SACKMAN
Staff Reporter



Shakerite artwork by Abby Disalvo

In a world full of countless different races, languages and cultures, there is one form of communication that trancsends all boundaries and distinctions. Music.

Senior Jake Fader, with friends Sebastian Raphael Bendezu ("Paco"), Jason Drexler and Matt Fader, formed the band Sacajawea, attempting to traverse these boundaries.

"Music is a feeling. It's a bridge for people. It's communicating what can't be communicated verbally," a pensive Fader said.

The music of Sacajawea defies genre, drawing influences from innumerable sources. At any time you might find Fader listening to Jimi Hendrix, Phish, Frank Zappa or even Mozart. The band has played music ranging fom slow blues to reggae to hard rock to blue grass to anything else its members feel like.

Fader, with Bendezu, a Shaker graduate, shares the tasks of lead guitar, lead vocals and songwriting.

"Everybody runs on a vibration; when I'm writing, hopefully I can tap into other people's vibrations," Fader said.

The form the lyrics take closely depends on the same thing the music does: the feeling. Fader, who said he has been writing poetry for longer than he has been writing music, emphasizes that songs come out of what he is feeling when he writes them.

"If I stop more than five times in twenty minutes, there's something wrong," Fader said.

When writing, Fader said he not only thinks about how the song will sound to him, but how it will make other people feel. Fader emphasizes the importance of pure feelings.

"I try to create a song that pays attention to people," Fader said

He explains that sometimes people are listening to a song and two minutes into it they lose interest. Fader's goal is to write a song that will keep people immersed in it for the duration.

While Fader spends a good deal of time listening to music, by no means is he looking to recreate someone else's sound.

"I try to stay away from stuff that's been done before," Fader said.

"You wanna try to get something new because as good as you may be, no one wants to hear the same old thing," Bendezu pointed out.

Certainly talented, Sacajawea is currently in the early stages of development. According to Fader, right now the musical communication is good, but it's not where it needs to be. One reason for this is that people have been floating in and out of the band. One original member and close friend of Fader's has moved, and the band does not have a regular drummer yet.

"There are rough edges that need to be worked out," Fader said.

At this point one of the main focuses of Sacajawea is experimentation. The band practices for two to three hours every night. Whether practicing or playing live, the band goes off into unexplored territory at any time.

"I am completely, 100 percent improvisational on all my solos," Fader said. "It's how I'm feeling at the time."

A criticism of the band is that it sometimes sounds like two guitar players (Fader and Bendezu) trying to outdo each other.

"We try to see how high we can push each other," Fader said. "It goes hand in hand with the experimentation."

As Fader points out, in every experiment there has to be a focus. In this case, the focus is to find new sounds and improve the band's chemistry.

"If you've got somebody to push you you're gonna work harder. You see him doing things you want to do," Bendezu said.

With regards to improvement, Fader is confident the band will continue to get better with more practice.

"It's a matter of playing and playing and playing and playing," Fader said.

One of the most important aspects of playing guitar for Fader is the ability to express himself.

"You get the bad demons out and the good demons in," Fader said.

Presently, Fader admits he is not capable of transferring exactly what he is feeling onto guitar but believes that it will come with more practice.

Fader said that when he is listening to other people's music, he enjoys the way the sounds make him feel and the way the artists express themselves.

"One of the best things about Hendrix is that his tone is so true and so pure," Fader said.

Fader also said the unique nature of music as a form of communication makes it even more interesting.

"Music is not only a science (due to the manipulation of sound waves by the musician), but it is also an art," Fader said.

When Fader talks about expression, he believes that before you can communicate with music you have to know the theory behind it.

"You can't play music until you understand it," Fader said.

When playing live, all the ideas of experimentation and eclecticism take on a more intense form. Fader sometimes gets into a form of meditation to become completely involved with the music.

"It's all based on how it feels at that moment," Fader said.

It has been said that the hardest part of a live performance is not to lose focus.

"One of the greatest challenges in playing is turning a solo into a melody," Fader said.

Fader has taken music theory both in school and privately. Also, he has been playing guitar for three year, taking private lessons, is proficient on bass guitar, and can play the drums a little too. For his Senior Project he is going to learn to play piano. When he writes lyrics he draws from what he has inside him and does not over extend himself.

"I don't write out of my element," Fader said.

In a time where most bands are just looking to sell records by catering to the MTV crowd, it is refreshing to see a group that cares so much about what goes into and comes out of its music.

"I want to play music so people can forget whatever is ailing them and just chill," Bendezu said.

Like, um, duh or something

Famous people say dumb stuff all the time. Here are a few gems:

☆"Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life." – *Brooke Shields, actress*

☆"It's not listed in the Bible, but my spiritual gift, my specific calling from God, is to be a television talk show host." – *James Bakker, television evangelist*

☆"A verbal contract isn't worth the paper it's written on." – *Samuel Goldwyn, movie mogul*

☆"I smell a rat, I see him floating in the air, but mark me, I shall nip him in the bud." – *Sir Boyle Roche, member of British Parliament*

☆"I believe that mink are raised for being turned into fur coats and if we didn't wear fur coats those little animals would never have been born. So is it better not to have been born or to have lived for a year or two to have been turned into a fur coat? I don't know." – *Barbi Benton, ex-Playboy bunny turned actress*

☆"Things are more like they are now than they ever have been." – *President Gerald Ford.*

☆"Winfield goes back to the wall. He hits his head on the wall and it rolls off! It's rolling all the way back to second base! This is a terrible thing for the Padres!" – *Jerry Coleman, radio announcer, trying to describe a fly ball*

Shakerite Source: The 776 Stupidest Things Ever Said

What's Goin' On?

So many concerts, so little time

Yes, it's that time of the year again. Time to don your mosh gear for outdoor concerts at Nautica Stage and Blossom Music Center. Time to pack the cooler for a thrill-filled day at the amusement park meeting guys in tank tops and three-foot girls who only meet the Big Dipper height requirement because of their hair. Or how about rinsing baby pee out of your swimsuit after taking a dip in the smelly puddle they call Dover Lake? Whatever you decide to do, pack up your jeans and sweaters and feel the burn.

❀**Adam Sandler**–Nautica Stage, June 26

❀**Presidents of the United States of America**–Nautica Stage, June 18

❀**Seven Mary Three**–Nautica Stage, July 4

❀**Everclear** with **Spacehog** and **Tracy Bonham**–Nautica Stage, July 12

❀**Buzzardfest** with **Candlebox**, the **Nixons**, **No Doubt**, **Patti Rothberg** and more–Blossom Music Center, May 18, $15–$17

❀**Allman Brothers**–Nautica Stage, July 24

❀**Geauga Lake**
Opening May 11, [illegible] ([illegible] after 5p.m.)

❀**Cedar Point**–May 11, $28.95 ($18.95 after 5p.m.)

❀Spring Jam starring **Roger Troutman** and **Zapp**, **Morris Day** and the **Time**, **Dazz Band** –Palace Theater, May 31 all seats $25

❀**Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra** Tenth Anniversary concert–Severance Hall, May 12, $7

❀**"Grease"** – Music Hall, May 7–12, $24-$44

❀**Jewel**–The Odeon, May 14, $10.50

❀**Ekoostik Hookah**–The Odeon, May 15, tickets $9 for age 20 and under

❀**Cracker** and **Sparklehorse**–The Odeon, May 29, all tickets $17

❀**Neil Diamond**–Gund Arena, Jun.27 –Jun.29, $17.50–$35

❀**NORML Arts and Music Festival**–A weekend of music, arts and crafts, body-painting and more at the Hideaway in the Hills Campground, May 24-26, $25 including two nights of camping call 521–9333 for more information

❀**Hootie and the Blowfish**–Blossom Music Center, July 18

❀**Ozzy Osbourne** and **Filter**–Blossom Music Center, June 29

❀**Pantera** and **White Zombie**–Blossom Music Center, August 15

❀Rumor has it that the **H.O.R.D.E** tour with **Blues Traveler**, **Natalie Merchant**, **Rusted Root**, **Lenny Kravitz** and (maybe) the **Dave Matthews Band** might be coming to Blossom, though no dates have been announced yet. (July 9?)

–Lauren Dicks and Jessica Weeks

(Story continued from page 7)

After dusting myself off, I walked up to Shaker boulevard, where I saw my friends driving towards me. They stopped and picked me up, and I was thinkin' "Dude, this is too gnarly to be true. I thought tonight would be whack, but it's turnin' out kind of dope.......

Continued on page 14

Mural, Mural on the wall...

BY TOBY BULLOFF
Staff reporter

With senior project starting soon, murals should be popping up. But this year, according to Baird Wiehe, it is not likely a mural will be painted.

Many students reacted disappointedly to this news because they like the murals that were done last year. Esther Rosenfeld's lockers mural ranked high on students and teachers' lists of favorite murals. Sophomore Isaac Feitler said he liked the mural because it looks realistic. He even mistook the art for real lockers once.

The same mural sticks out in junior Wallis Wilkinson's mind.

"The painting of the lockers is so visually interesting. You almost have to look twice to figure out where the painting ends and where the real lockers begin. It's a neat microcosm of the whole school," Wilkinson said.

Some students also like the dragon by room 257, the Jim Morrison, the rainbow square leading up the auditorium stairs and the dome covered mural of the Ben's friends' faces, drawn last year by Ben Fogarty.

When senior Norm Paris first came to this school as a freshman, the Jim Morrison painting struck out at him, it continues to do so every day when he walks by it.

"The Jim Morrison mural is very striking. You can't help but notice it. It's a popular picture that everyone has seen before, so it shows what enlarging an image can really do," Paris said.

Dr. Rumbaugh's favorite murals are the Jim Morrison and the clown with a tear by the auditorium balcony.

"[The clown] brings to mind the happiness and sadness of commencement," Rumbaugh said.

Students and teachers did not like the inside jokes of some murals.

"I hate that mural ['Bob, Marry wants you to snap her picture'] because it makes no sense!," sophomore Carrie Lewine said. Latin teacher Bob White agreed.

Just looking at a mural indicates to some students how long ago it was painted. Paris has developed a hypothesis to decipher a mural's date.

"The older murals are more graphic, simple and clean-cut; the newer murals seem more illustrative and complex," Paris said.

One of the more complex murals and Paris's personal favorite is the skateboarder mural.

"[The skateboarder] is the most descriptive and complex mural. It has great depth, perspective and sense of movement. Someone told me it is one of the only murals where the painter actually mixed paint; you actually see the curve of the skateboard," Paris said.

Some murals ranged from being loved to hated. The devils/angels in the band room, the Betty Boop craze of the 80's and the Knight Rider near the auditorium are such examples.

White favored taking down the Jim Morrison because he felt it was irrelevant in the 90's. Also, some older murals are worn out and should be repainted or painted over. One example is the music note/rainbow mural above the hall to the chorus room.

Some interesting murals seem to be hidden, senior Jenny Spencer commented.

"The clown is good, but no one ever sees it. Also the planets with the little alien by the planetarium is missed," Spencer said.

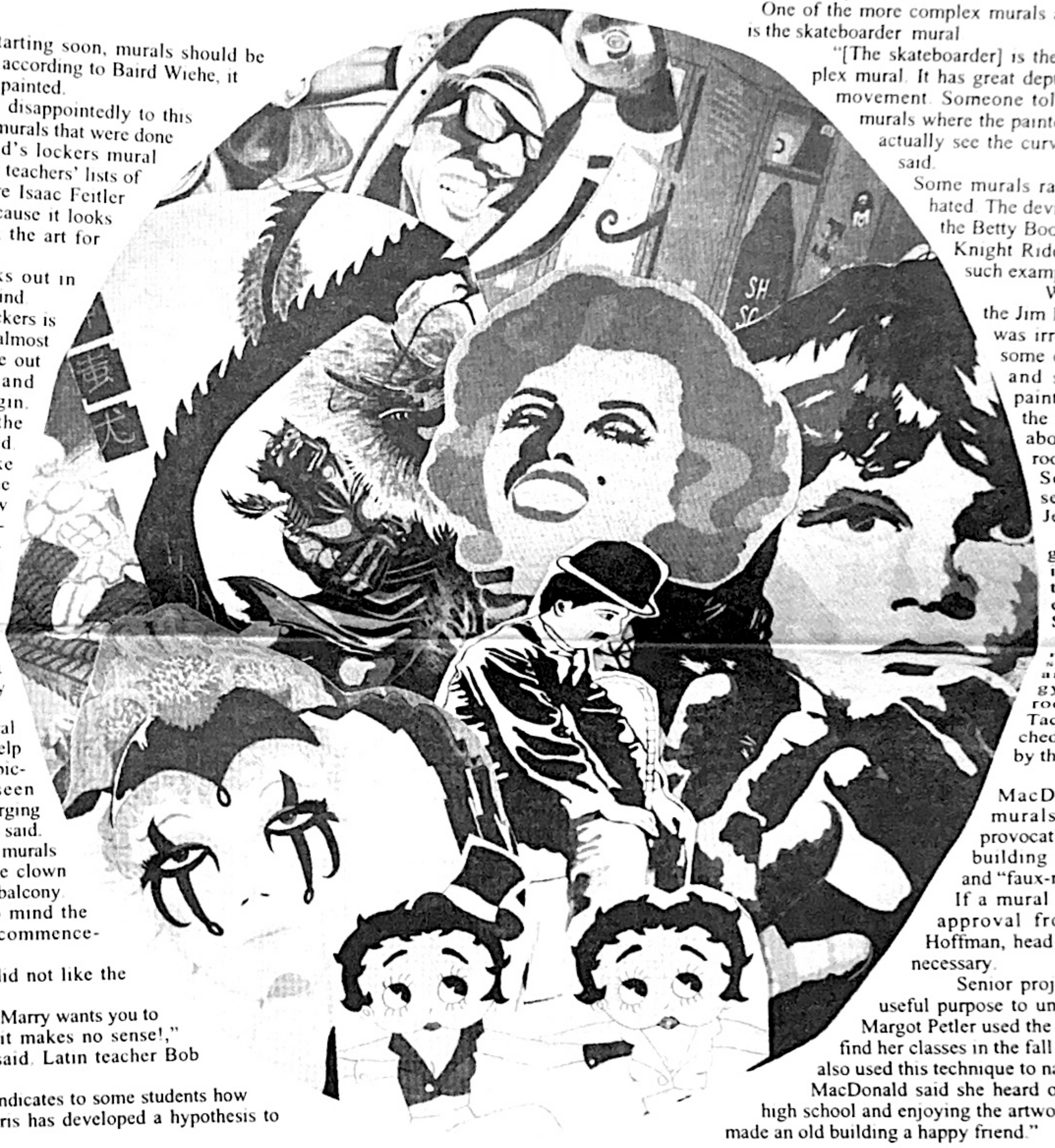
Spencer said some murals should be constructed in bigger, open areas like the cafeteria, gym and multipurpose room. Sophomore Susan Taccini suggests that a psychedelic mural be constructed by the science wing.

Teacher Susan MacDonald suggests new murals to be "educationally provocative." She encourages the building of a historical timeline and "faux-masters classic art" piece.

If a mural should be constructed, approval from Wiehe and James Hoffman, head of the art department, is necessary.

Senior project murals often serve a useful purpose to underclassmen. Sophomore Margot Petler used the murals as "landmarks" to find her classes in the fall last year. Many freshmen also used this technique to navigate the building.

MacDonald said she heard of an outsider visiting the high school and enjoying the artwork. She said "[the murals] made an old building a happy friend."



Shakerite Photos by Laura Kushnick

Munchin' in the sun

BY NICOLE SUTCLIFFE
Co-feature editor

The winter snow has melted and that dreary period between February and April is now over. Spring has officially reached Shaker.

Whether they sit out on the front lawn or gather in their cars, students take advantage of the heat and venture outside at lunch.

"[Eating outside] gives you a chance to forget that you are at school and get a breathe of fresh air," sophomore Allison Beamer said.

Like beamer, students feel that eating outside is an opportunity to get away from the confining cafeteria and enjoy the campus.

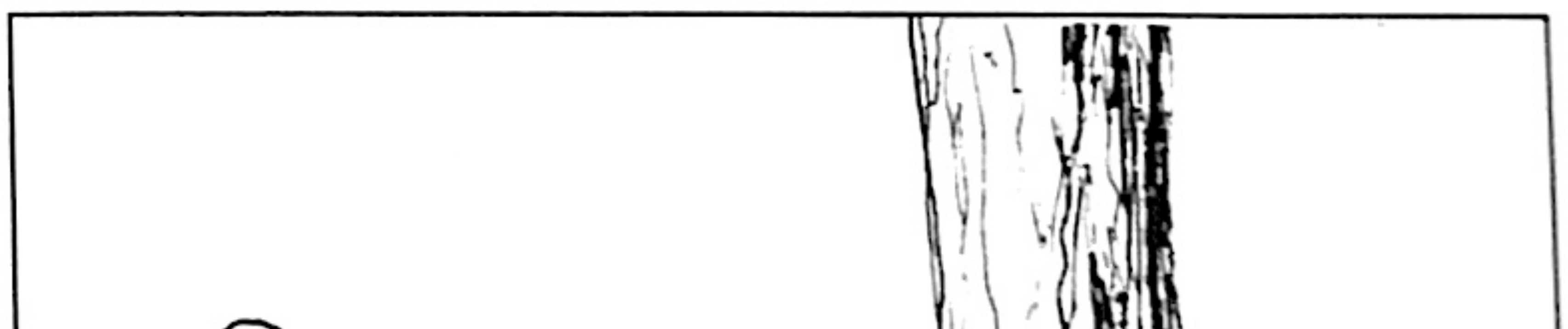
"You feel less claustrophobic. When you're inside you have to deal with annoying, loud people at the table next to you. Outside the only thing you have to bare are the darn squirrels who try to steal your food," junior Patrick McMenamin said.

Sophomore Jesse Knowles said it was the people in the cafeteria which drove her to decide to eat outside.

This year with the opening of the egress to students during the lunch period, it too, according to junior Jeff Matthias, has become over crowded and loud.

"Now that everyone eats in the egress there is no quiet in the whole school, and no place you can have a decent conversation," Matthias said.

Some students take advantage of their lunch period to leave the building and become refreshed by going outside.



Shakerite artwork by Jenny Spencer and David Arnold

" You are in school for seven hours in the day. It is nice to be able to go outside for 20 minutes everyday and get revitalized," junior Mollie Folkman said.

According to Folkman, students seem to be in a general better mood when they are outside because of the nice weather and freedom which eating in the cafeteria does not provide.

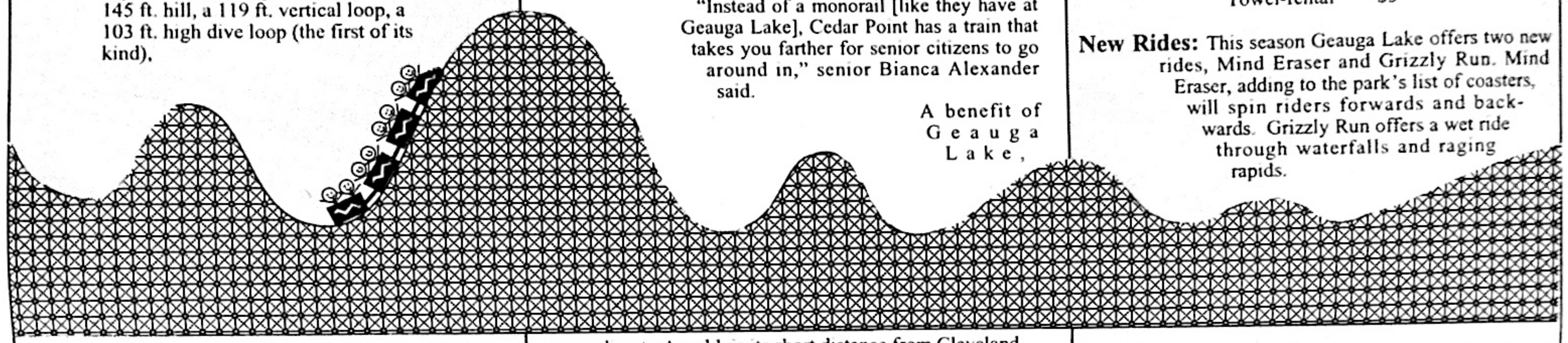
" It's nice to be outside. If I really wanted the cafeteria food I would wait in line, but it's too noisy and overcrowded," Folkman said.

Junior Holly Bosley agrees with Folkman.

"I prefer being outside because it gives you a chance to be at one with nature," Bosley said. " a chance to relax in the sun."

Battle of the parks : Cedar Point vs. Geauga Lake

BY KATIE EDELSTEIN AND NICOLE SUTCLIFFE
Co-Feature Editors



Cedar Point

Location: On Lake Erie, mid-way between Toledo and Cleveland, approximately an hour and a half from Shaker.

Hours: Cedar Point will open its gates on May 11 and 12 at 9 a.m.

Ticket Price: Adult admission to the park is $28.95. Evening admission is only $18.95, and season passes are available for $85.95.

Other costs:

Parking		$5
Lockers	(small) $.50	(large) $.75
Towel rental		$1.50

New Rides: Cedar Point continues its tradition of new exciting rides this season with Mantis and Ripcord. At 60 mph, the Mantis includes a 145 ft. hill, a 119 ft. vertical loop, a 103 ft. high dive loop (the first of its kind), a 360° turn and a figure eight finale. The Ripcord is a skydiving and bungee jumping sky coaster featuring a 15 story tether drop from twin launch towers at 65 mph. Individual fee and reservations are required.

Other Roller Coasters: Cedar Point offers a total of 12 coasters, more than anywhere else. The Magnum, Gemini and Mean Streak speed riders up and down hills, some over 200 ft. The Corkscrew , Raptor and Mantis will spiral riders around upside down.

Shows: 25 to 30 minutes long, they are presented throughout the park at various locations. These are offered free of admission.

Water Park: Soak City is an additional $10 to regular park admission Water slides, a putt-putt course, innertube rides and go-carts are all available.

Summertime means sunbathing at the beach, rollerblading in the park and of course, daily outings to local amusement parks. Although most students agree amusement parks are exciting, adventurous and a great place to get away, not everyone agrees on which amusement park is the best. Cedar Point and Geauga Lake are the most popular among northeast Ohioans; their differences and similarities are a constant debate.

Cedar Point wins points for the opportunities they offer, such as their numerous rides and diverse entertainment. Senior David Arnold believes these aspects to be Cedar Point's principle benefits, especially when compared to Geauga Lake, which does not offer as much.

"Geauga Lake is an area amusement park, and Cedar Point is on a bigger production scale. It is a big, huge amusement park that offers a large scope of things, such as their number of rides, which go from the tallest and the fastest in the world down to kiddie rides and their variety of entertainment," Arnold said.

Another plus Cedar Point offers is its train for senior citizens and others who can't ride the coasters and walk around.

"Instead of a monorail [like they have at Geauga Lake], Cedar Point has a train that takes you farther for senior citizens to go around in," senior Bianca Alexander said.

A benefit of Geauga Lake, according to Arnold, is its short distance from Cleveland.

"Geauga Lake is something you can plan sort of quickly and just go because it's so close. Cedar Point takes more planning because it's about two hours away," Arnold said.

Besides the farther distance from Cleveland, other negatives of Cedar Point are its large crowds and higher price, according to junior Alisa Beck.

"Cedar Point is always more crowded [than Geauga Lake], and it's more expensive, but I like going there because the rides are better. Geauga Lake can be fun because the lines are a lot shorter," Beck said.

Geauga Lake, because of its prime location near a lake, has a scenic view of Sea World.

"Geauga Lake has a nice view, just walking or standing near the water you can see the animals and what's going on at Sea World," sophomore Marcus Baldwin said.

The roller coasters at both parks have exciting features, according to Baldwin.

"My favorite at Cedar Point is the Raptor because it's different; all the other coasters are the same. At Geauga Lake I like the Double Loop because it's really fast and it scares me," Baldwin said.

Geauga Lake

Location: Aurora, off of route 43. Approximately half an hour away from Shaker

Hours: Geauga Lake opens to the public on the weekend of May 11 and 12, from noon to 8 p.m.. Summer hours begin on May 25 through Sept. 1, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m..

Admissions: Adult Admission to the park is $19.99. Discounts are available throughout the summer months. Season passes are also available for $59.99.

Other costs:

Parking	$4
Innertube rental	$4
Lockers (all day)	$3
Paddleboats	$3
Towel-rental	$3

New Rides: This season Geauga Lake offers two new rides, Mind Eraser and Grizzly Run. Mind Eraser, adding to the park's list of coasters, will spin riders forwards and backwards. Grizzly Run offers a wet ride through waterfalls and raging rapids.

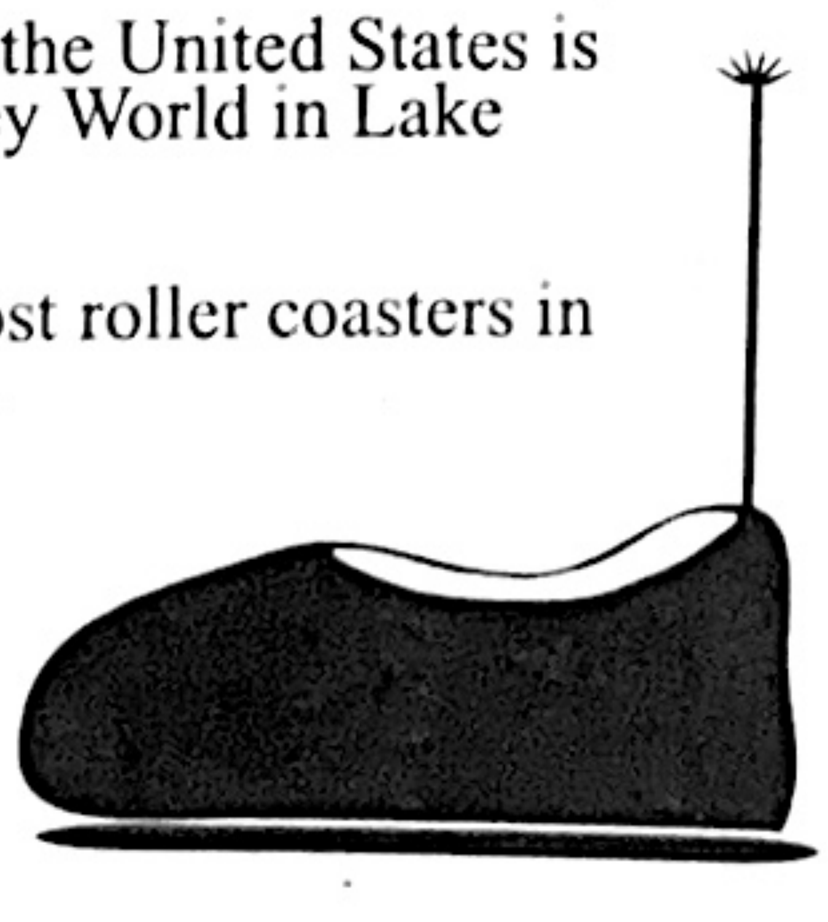
Other Roller Coasters: Geauga Lake Offers a total of four roller coasters. The Double Loop rushes riders upside down while *The Big Dipper* and Raging Wolf Bobs are two classic wooden coasters.

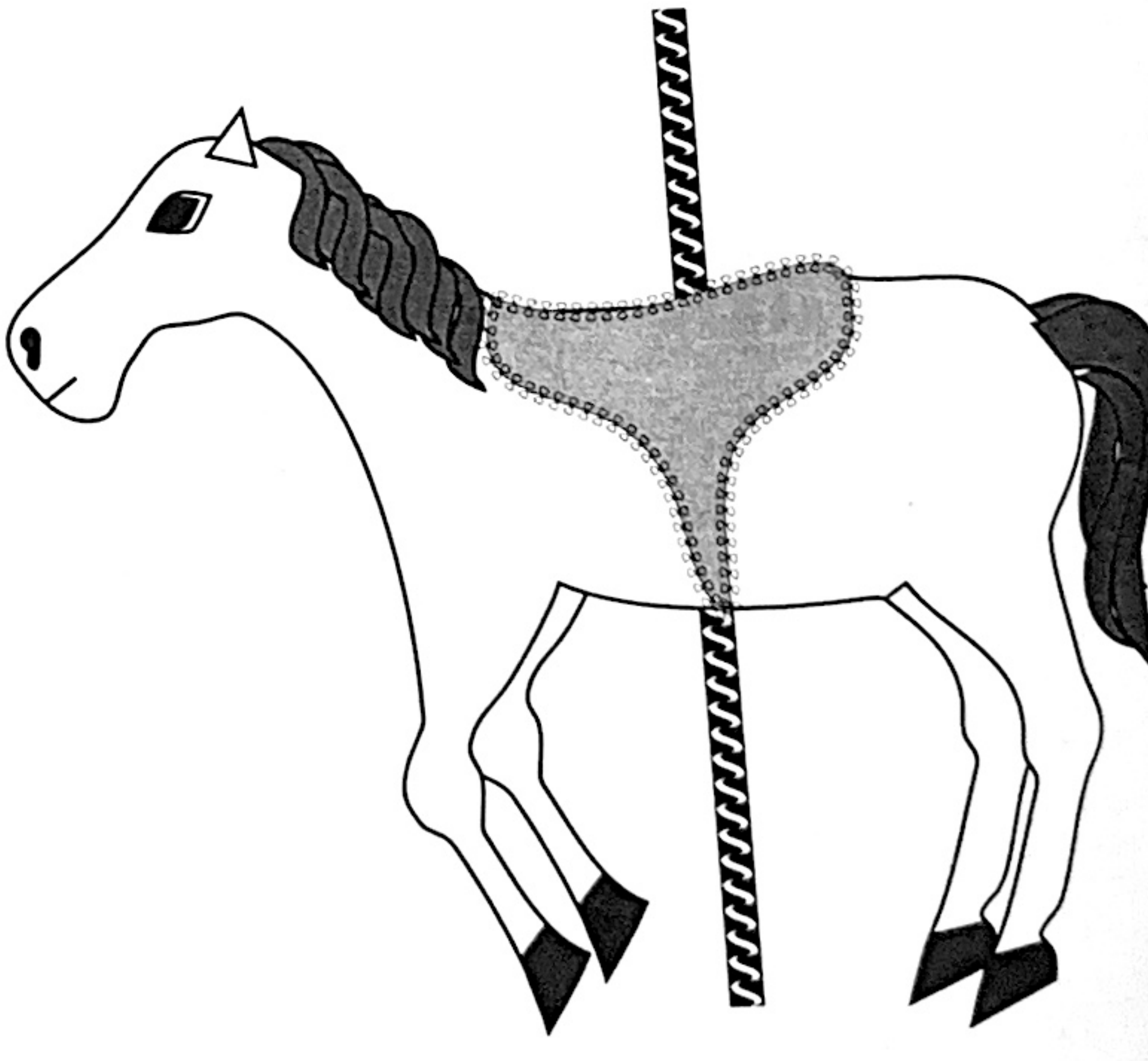
Shows: Shows are offered free of admission and are approximately 10 to 30 minutes long. Times of the shows are posted throughout the park daily.

Water Park: Geauga Lake offers free admission to their water park and rides. Besides the conventional 70 ft. waterslides, the park also offers a two million gallon wave pool called the Wave, water toboggans, the Rampage, water racers and paddle boats. All are recommended to cool you off after a long day in the sun.

Fun amusement park facts

- Prior to 1900 Cedar Point was primarily a resort for families. It has withstood three major wars and the Great Depression.
- When it was built, in '78, the Gemini was the world's largest roller coaster.
- The number one amusement park in the world is Disneyland in Tokyo, Japan.
- The Top Amusement Park in the United States is The Magic Kingdom of Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.
- Cedar Point is home to the most roller coasters in the world, with 12 this season.





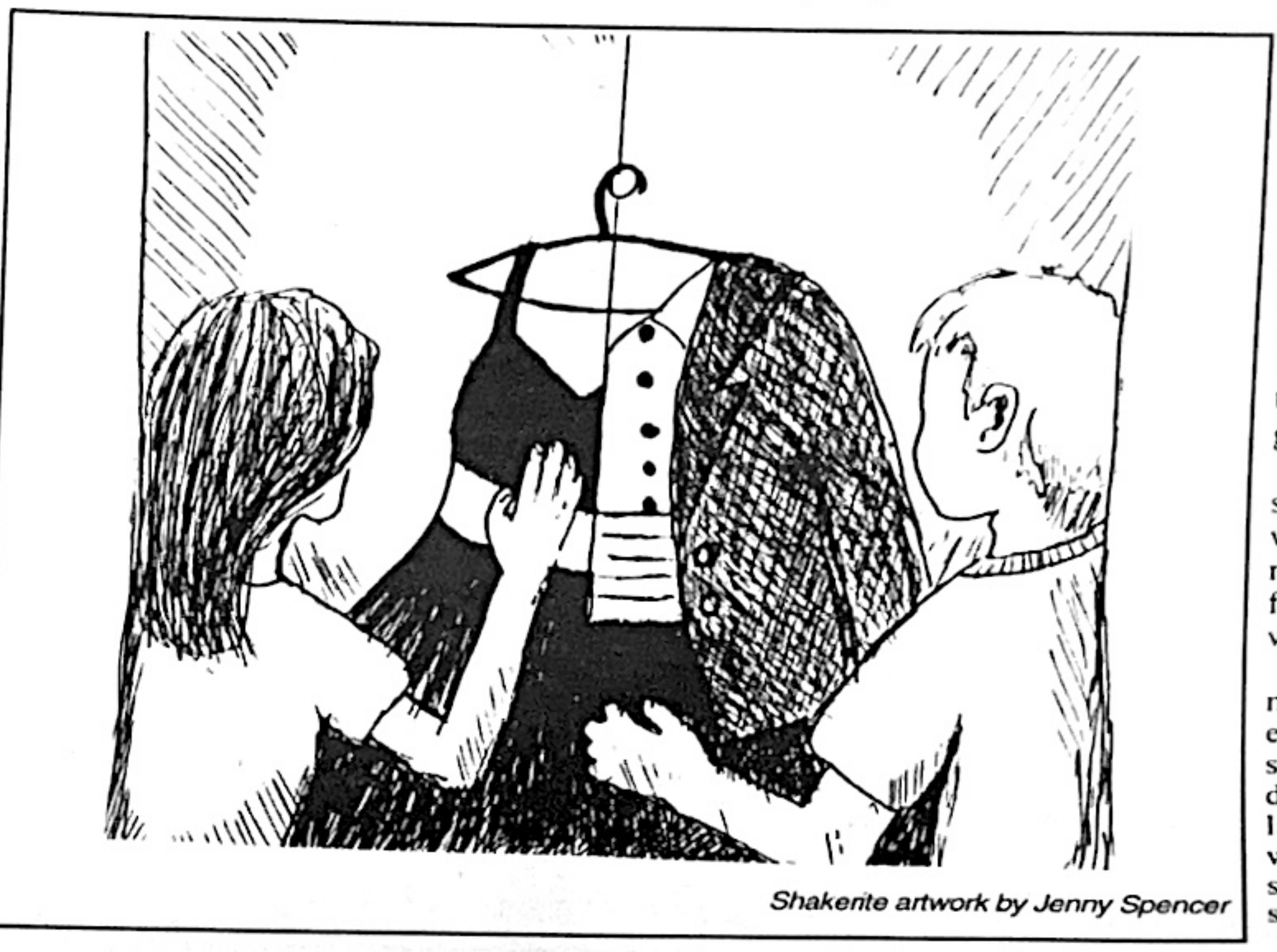
Shakerite graphics by Rebecca Marshall

In the midnight hour

BY KATIE EDELSTEIN
Co-Feature Editor

The countdown has begun, prom is only two days away. As seniors eagerly await this memorable high school experience, all that is left to rely on are those carefully calculated, hopefully perfect plans. Appointments are made, reservations set up, dresses, shoes, and jewelry in sync with cummerbund and vests. Plans for before and after prom will send seniors in numerous directions, and hopefully the countless preparations will make for an unforgettable evening.

Pinpointing exactly what time certain activities should take place, senior Akil Hameed has worked hard to make sure prom night will be a success. He has arranged for professional pictures to be taken at 5 p.m. in front of the pond at University Circle. At 6:30, the seven other people he will be attending prom with will meet at his house.



Shakerite artwork by Jenny Spencer

"A limo will be waiting for us [at my house]. We'll ride around for a while, stopping at people's houses to take pictures. At 7:30 the limo will drop us off at Tower City for dinner at Morton's, and from there we will go to prom," Hameed said.

After prom Hameed and his friends will go to Embassy Suites where their cars will be waiting. They will change clothes, go to after-prom and then head back to the hotel where Hameed will have people over in his presidential suite. In the morning, they will meet at the high school and leave for Cedar Point.

Despite his precise plans, Hameed still worries things will not go as planned.

"I'm excited but scared that everything won't work out right. I had a dream that my date's dress wasn't made. I guess I'm kind of on pins and needles. People keep telling me to stop planning so much and just have fun," Hameed said.

Making arrangements for prom, senior Kelly Scott also has an approximate agenda. After taking pictures, she and 13 other couples will ride in a van downtown for dinner at the Watermark. From there they will go to prom and after-prom.

"After that we'll probably sleep. In the morning, Jane Calfee's mom is doing a breakfast. We're not going to Cedar Point since we'll be up all night," Scott said.

Some seniors did not have such detailed plans far in advance. Senior Deven Mann made hair and nail appointments and reservations for dinner at the Powerhouse and a limo. She also knew she would be leaving for Cedar Point around noon in a limo because she does not want to drive there. Beyond that, she was not really sure what was happening.

Opting to be entirely prepared for prom night ahead of time in order to eliminate stress, senior Whitney Marsh will be getting her hair, nails and make-up professionally done the Thursday before prom.

"I'm getting a lot of stuff done ahead of time so I can enjoy prom. I want to be relaxed, not stressed," Marsh said.

The necessary preparations for prom were somewhat of a burden, according to Marsh.

"[Prom] is a lot of money, and the preparation and finalizing things with my date takes a lot of work. I'd rather just skip the prom thing and go straight to graduation," Marsh said.

On the other hand, senior Raushonda Gadson, who had a dress and shoes made for a little under $500, feels the money for prom is worth it.

"Prom costs a lot of money. Even though it's so expensive, it's worth it to see everyone in their best dress and to have fun for the last time. After prom you won't be able to see the same people again," Gadson said.

Despite the 'prom fever' some seniors have, others have no interest in the affair. Senior Leigh Burditt does not care about prom at all.

"I don't want to spend the money, and I am not interested in the music, party-type scene. Prom doesn't mean a single thing to me. My parents and friend are making me go to after-prom," Burditt said.

Spending the money on something he would rather be doing, senior Aaron Payne will be spending Saturday and Sunday at Cedar Point, renting a car, staying at a hotel and going out to dinner Saturday night.

"I heard from some people who went to prom last year that it wasn't great. They said Cedar Point was where they had the most fun, no one is watching over you there, and you can just 'kick it'," Payne said.

British students 'ave fun in Shaker

BY EMILY HOFFMAN
Staff Reporter

"The British are coming! The British are coming!"

Each year, since '92, Shaker has enjoyed the experience of having students visit from Worthing, England. This year, 15 students from Worthing came to Shaker.

"I had a lot of fun hanging out with the English students. They were really cool," junior Cristin O'Grady said.

The trip to our school is part of an exchange program run by English teacher Steven Fox. Fox received a Fulbright Scholarship, which allowed him to change places with a teacher from England for the '88-'89 school year.

During the year he spent overseas, Fox fell in love with England. The next school year, when he had returned to Shaker, he became acquainted with a teacher from England who was spending the year teaching in Cleveland. The teacher was looking for a sister school, and Shaker was the school she chose.

"[The exchange program] is a way for me to keep my contacts in England alive and to foster the opportunity for interaction between our school and theirs," Fox said.

While in the United States, the students explored the greater Cleveland area. The students' schedule included visits to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, The Museum of Art, The Natural History Museum, The Crawford Auto Museum and two guided tours of Cleveland highlighting the Amish country and the ethnic areas. The students also visited Washington, D.C.

Some of our school's customs were very foreign to the students. There are no letter jackets in England, and several of the students had only read about homeroom in books until they came here.

"[Shaker High School] is just like Rydell High out of *Grease*. [Shaker] is just like I imagined. It's so typical of what you think about the U.S.," exchange student Sara Crawford said.

The atmosphere of Shaker Heights especially impressed some of the exchange students.

"It's really nice here. It's a little too quiet, but you have such big and beautiful houses," Crawford said.

Other aspects of Shaker Heights which stood out in the minds of some of the exchange students were the size of our school, places like Arabica and the price of clothing, which is much cheaper than the cost of clothes in England.

"The lifestyles in the U.S. are really different. The way that Americans just hang out at coffee houses and places like that is really cool," Crawford said.

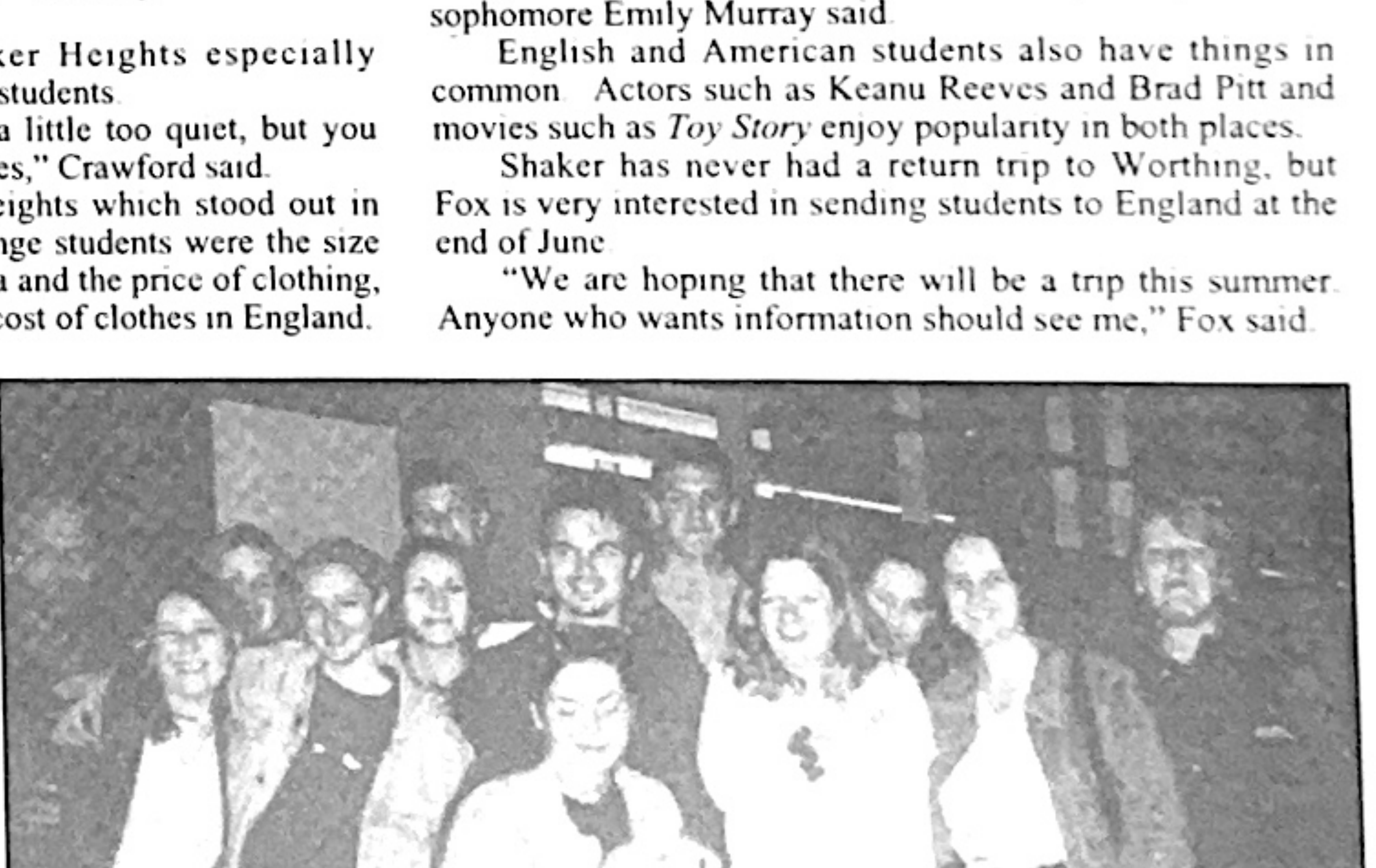
A big difference between teenagers in the United States and England is the language they use. The slang in England is much different than ours. For instance, if one wanted to call someone a name they might say, "mong" from the word mongrel or "muppet" could be used. "Pathetic" is often used in place of sad. Slang terms for clothing are also different. Sweaters are known as "jumpers." "Trousers" is the word for jeans. In England, if you call someone you "ring" them, and if the phone line is busy, it is "engaged."

"I really enjoyed meeting the English students. I especially liked their accents and their funny slang words," sophomore Emily Murray said.

English and American students also have things in common. Actors such as Keanu Reeves and Brad Pitt and movies such as *Toy Story* enjoy popularity in both places.

Shaker has never had a return trip to Worthing, but Fox is very interested in sending students to England at the end of June.

"We are hoping that there will be a trip this summer. Anyone who wants information should see me," Fox said.



SAY CHEESE! The fifteen exchange students from England smile as they continue their eventful trip

Shakerite photo by Jennifer Landreth and Laura Kushnick

(Continued from page 11)

I wanted to go to the party first, but they said they were thirsty and wanted to make a run to Bill's Beverage. Anyways, after they got themselves some liquids to quench their thirst, we drove around looking for the party, but we never did find it. I thought, "No way, another jake night of driving around, looking for non-existent parties."

—By Miles Berger

Track teams off and running

BY AARON GALVIN
Staff Reporter

The men's track team is doing exceptionally well at this point, according to head coach Stuart Gilbert. The team is 4-0 in dual meets and 5-0 overall. They are in first place in the LEL Erie Division. Gilbert is predicting an LEL championship.

"I can't see any reason why we wouldn't win the division. Our team is running well and we are winning meets," Gilbert said.

The team has gone above and beyond all expectations they had this season. There has been tremendous senior leadership, along with raw talent from a number of talented freshmen. According to Gilbert, Arnell and Darnell Brantley are two seniors who have stepped up to the challenge. The twins both run the 400 and 800 meter relay. They have been mentioned in both *The Plain Dealer* and the *Sun Press*.

"Arnell and Darnell are exceptional athletes. They have really proven themselves this year with their leadership as well as running," Gilbert said.

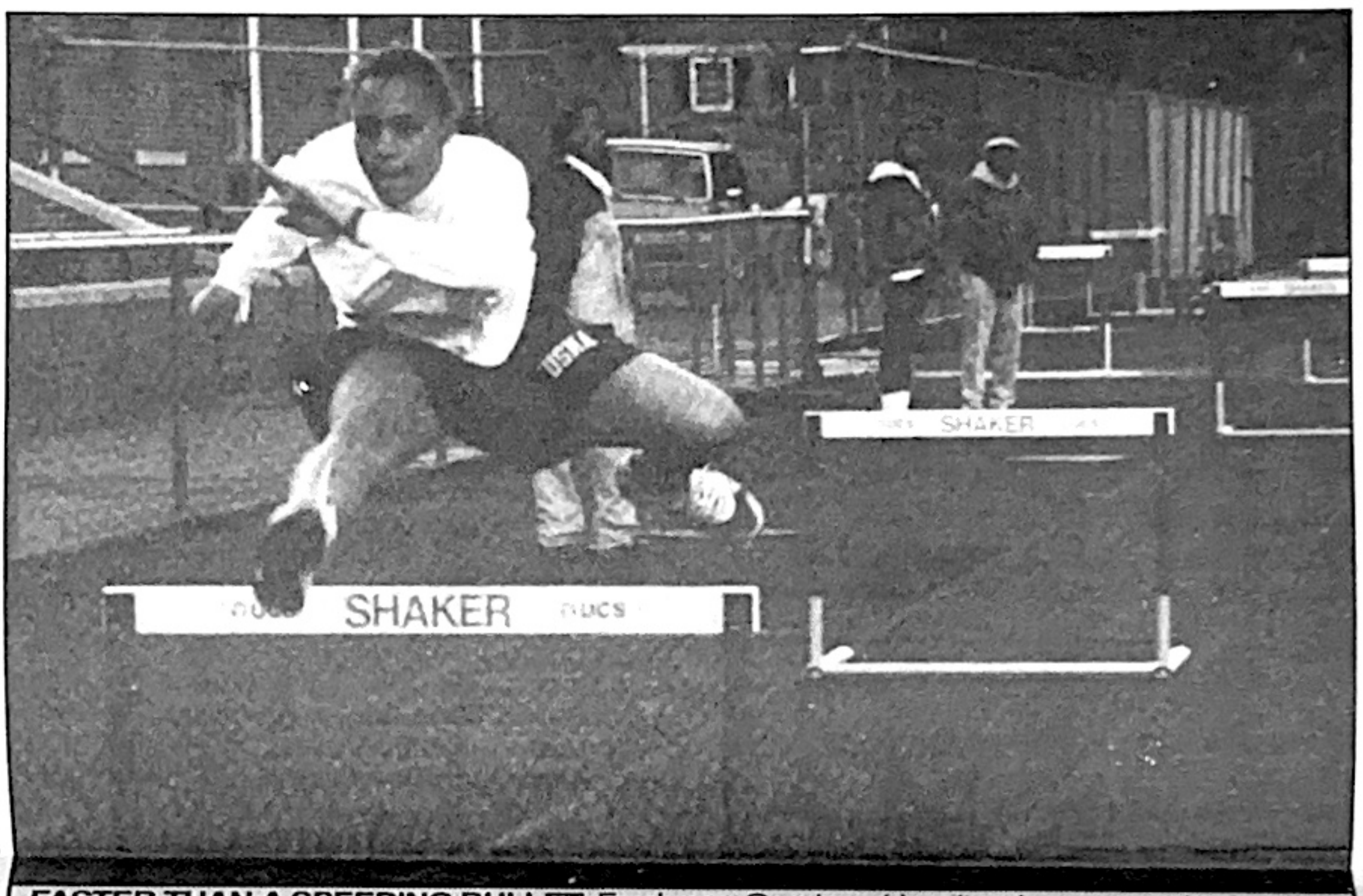
The team also acquired another star this year in junior Skip Williams. Williams transferred here after going to St. Ignatius for his past two seasons. Williams competes in some races, but his best event is the high jump and long jump. He is one of the top jumpers in the area.

Other runners whose presence has been felt this year are sophomore Paul Keen, junior Raj-Arington Bey, and freshman Josiah Quarles. Both Keen and Arrington-Bey compete in the 800, and Quarles is the team's long distance runner. Gilbert commented on their off-season and in-season attitudes.

"These guys really worked hard to get to where they are. They deserve the credit and it shows," Gilbert said.

Some credit for the team's success must go to Coach Gilbert himself. Gilbert is one of the best coaches this school has, according to sophomore Jon Hausman.

"He always keeps a positive attitude and very rarely puts people down. I really enjoy being on his team. We almost know we are going to excel because of our discipline and coaching."



FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET. Freshman Candace Hamilton leaps over the hurdles during practice.
Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

Softball team swinging for the fences

Despite getting off to a mediocre start this year, the softball team has high hopes for continuing victories.

"There is a lot of talent on our team this year. Hopefully we'll put all of this talent towards more success such as Districts or even States," senior co-captain Erika Brooks said.

Coach Tim Richards agreed the team has some promising aspects which, if everyone works hard, can lead to success.

"Through five games the team has been aggressive and focused. We're swinging the bats well and making some excellent plays in the field," Richards said. "The seniors have provided good leadership, and if some of our underclass players step up, we have a chance to win the Erie Division."

The team has been led by Brooks, junior clean-up hitter Lyndsey Mirmelstein, senior Jessica Zagier and freshman Sarah Wick, all featured in *The Plain Dealer* for being among the best hitters in the area.

"Hitting was one of our weaknesses last year," Mirmelstein said. "It's good to see an improvement because of the many hours spent at the batting cages."

The Lady Raiders began sectional play on May 6. Positive attitudes such as senior co-captain TreVina Johnson's are getting the team pumped to win these games.

"We've got all the ingredients to make this a worthwhile and exciting season," Johnson said.

—*Lindsay Campbell*

BRENDAN VS. SCOTT

The Final Round: If Leigh Stevens ran for president, would you vote for her?

BY BRENDAN MASINI
Co-Sports Editor

Starting last spring, this section, where Scott and I debate the facts of life, has been a fixture in the sports section. From this point, this section may simply be left blank in silent tribute to our genius. For this, our final confrontation, we have decided to contemplate the merits of Leigh Stevens, our seldom seen co-editor who just happens to be running for President of the United States.

A presidential race is nothing to be taken lightly, and I am sure that I will not vote for Leigh, but the subject with even more importance is that this is the last time that *Brendan vs. Scott* will ever grace the pages of this publication. I'm sure that this will be as much a loss to the entire student body as it will be to Scott and me who have grown used to autograph requests and endorsing products. Also, Leigh as president would lead our country further into debt and possibly war.

For our last argument, Scott and I had wanted to do something that everyone could enjoy. A timeless classic that would immortalize us as two of the greatest sports journalists ever that were named Brendan and Scott. Then Leigh decided that we should talk about her because she was feeling neglected. In truth, she was neglected because we had not seen her in class for a month. Being pressured into a topic is another reason why I'm not going to vote for Leigh this year.

When Scott and I started writing these commentaries we never imagined how successful they would be. If we did know, Leigh probably would have wanted it to be *Brendan vs. Scott vs Leigh* and that would have been no fun. It would have been hard to write about ping, pong and click, or whether worms cry, don't cry or just moan a little. Because she was not a part of these articles, Leigh deserves to be president, but I'm still not going to vote for her.

I'm going to be honest. Leigh really isn't running for president, and I'm not old enough to vote. Sorry to ruin all your fun. But don't pout about it. After all, you can always pretend that Leigh is president.

BY SCOTT FULLER
Co-Sports Editor

No, your eyes are not playing tricks on you; it would appear that this will be the final *Brendan vs. Scott*. Dry your tears- indeed it is a sad day when such a catastrophe comes to pass, but this is the time of year when the new staff is announced and changes must be made (and let's face it, this column is getting a little tired).

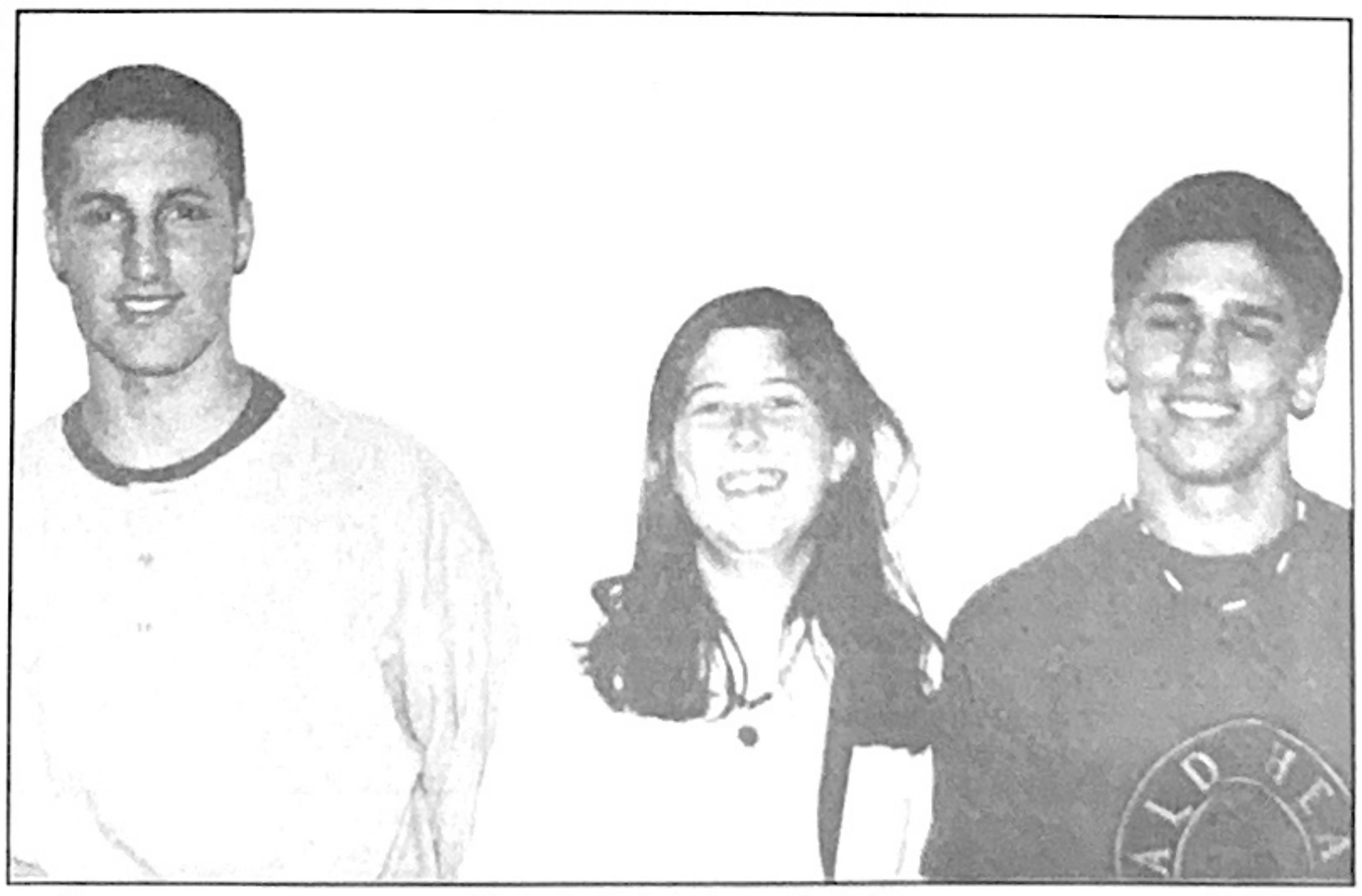
Brendan and I wanted to go out with a bang. You know: full section picture, celebration parade, fireworks, huge party, grand feast...that sort of thing. The other day we were sitting around the *Shakerite* office, opening our fan mail, talking about where show-business would take us next, and what the ever-important final topic would be. Here we were, laughing and joking around without a care in the world, when Leigh Stevens walked in.

In case you are unaware, there is, in fact, a third sports editor. Leigh is not around too much, and when she is, all she does is tell us how stupid this month's topic is or yell at us for putting that Michael Sims article in the paper. Brendan and I know the reason for her hostility: she is jealous. I suppose I would be too, seeing Brendan and me hamming it up in the spotlight and becoming famous, while she, unnoticed, lurks gloomily in the shadows. We decided then to dedicate our farewell to Leigh (we couldn't really avoid it with all the hints she kept dropping), who will also be leaving to wherever it is that she's going after graduation.

Would I vote for Leigh if she ran for president? (It's not like it really matters; somehow I don't think it's going to happen.) I'm not sure if she would make a good president or not.

While I may never forgive her for yelling and making fun of me all the time, there was one matter that eclipses all the rest: come deadline every issue, she would always go buy me food. I love food. Sometimes cookies, sometimes potato chips, pop, pizza, hamburgers, french fries and lots of other goodies. Never Brendan of course, because she only likes me.

So I'll vote for you, Leigh. Why not.



Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

Baseball squad has lofty goals

This year's baseball team has vaulted to a 5-1 Lake Erie League record and is currently in first place in the Lake Division. The team is 7-4 overall and coach Buddy Longo is looking to return to the regional tournament for the third straight year.

The story of this year's squad has been its pitching. As it was last year, the pitching staff is anchored by senior Matt Guerrier. Guerrier has been a terror to opposing hitters and is undefeated. He and standout sophomore Andrew Early form a one-two combination that devastates opponents. Guerrier, who has been scouted by several major league teams and plans to attend Kent State, sports an ERA of less than one. Both pitchers are competing for the area lead in strikeouts. Rounding out the staff are senior Ryan Gohmann and sophomore surprise Jason St. Onge. Several other players are also available to pitch.

Although not as outstanding as the pitching, Shaker's bats have also played a significant role in the success of this year's team. The team has shown that it has the heart to come back in games according to several of the players. Several games have already been won this year in the team's last at bat. Clutch hitting has come from all spots in the lineup. Leading this year's bats are hot hitting sophomore Nate Fish and senior Max Axler. Home runs this season have come off the bats of Guerrier and Fish with one each.

Detracting from the continuity of the team's success has been the inclement weather which has already prevented a handful of games.

"With clutch hitting and continued excellence in pitching, we should be able to continue our success of past years," said senior Mike O'Loughlin.

Because of past achievements the team is expected to be successful every season. These expectations have led to an increase in the number of fans that have come to games. Students have started a tradition of congregating on the left field foul line during games.

—Leigh Stevens

Slawson: Best team I've coached

BY LAURA CURTISS
Staff Reporter

The men's tennis team looks like it's going to be a powerhouse this year. The squad is talented and confident, so they have set their goals high: win the Lake Erie League championship, win the Northeast Ohio District Coach's Team Tournament and finish as one of the top four teams in the state.

The addition of two key players is helping their cause. After losing two major players to graduation last year, transfer sophomore Jeronie Barnes and freshman Danny Klein have filled these gaping holes in the line-up, said senior co-captain and third season doubles player Brian Snyder.

"Jeronie and Danny are an excellent addition and make us one of the top four in the state. They enable us to probably make it to states," Snyder said.

Back for his second year in second singles is sophomore Adam Grossman. He agrees with Snyder that the youngsters help the team.

"Barnes and Klein have added depth at the three spot [third singles] and strengthened doubles," Grossman said.

Last year Grossman and first singles player senior co-captain Dan Young both qualified for states, and according to Snyder, they each have an excellent chance to do the same this year. Coach and math teacher Allan Slawson said he would also like to see the two doubles teams representing Northeast Ohio at States. One pair to watch out for is senior co-captain Robert Rusher and junior Brad Keys, who were a tandem to be reckoned with last year. However, the aim of the group is to get to the state tournament as a team, and Grossman said this goal is definitely possible. There is already unity on the team, according to Grossman.

"The team is a mixture of all ages, and everybody gets along real well," Grossman said. "We have a good time whether at practice, matches or in Columbus. We look forward to these things."

Slawson said this is not only the best team he has ever coached according to ability, but one of the most united.

"The team acting as a team and together makes it all more fun. Our emphasis is on having fun while competing at a very high level," Slawson said.

Slawson said the team not only supports each other in practice, but will also stay after matches to cheer each other on.

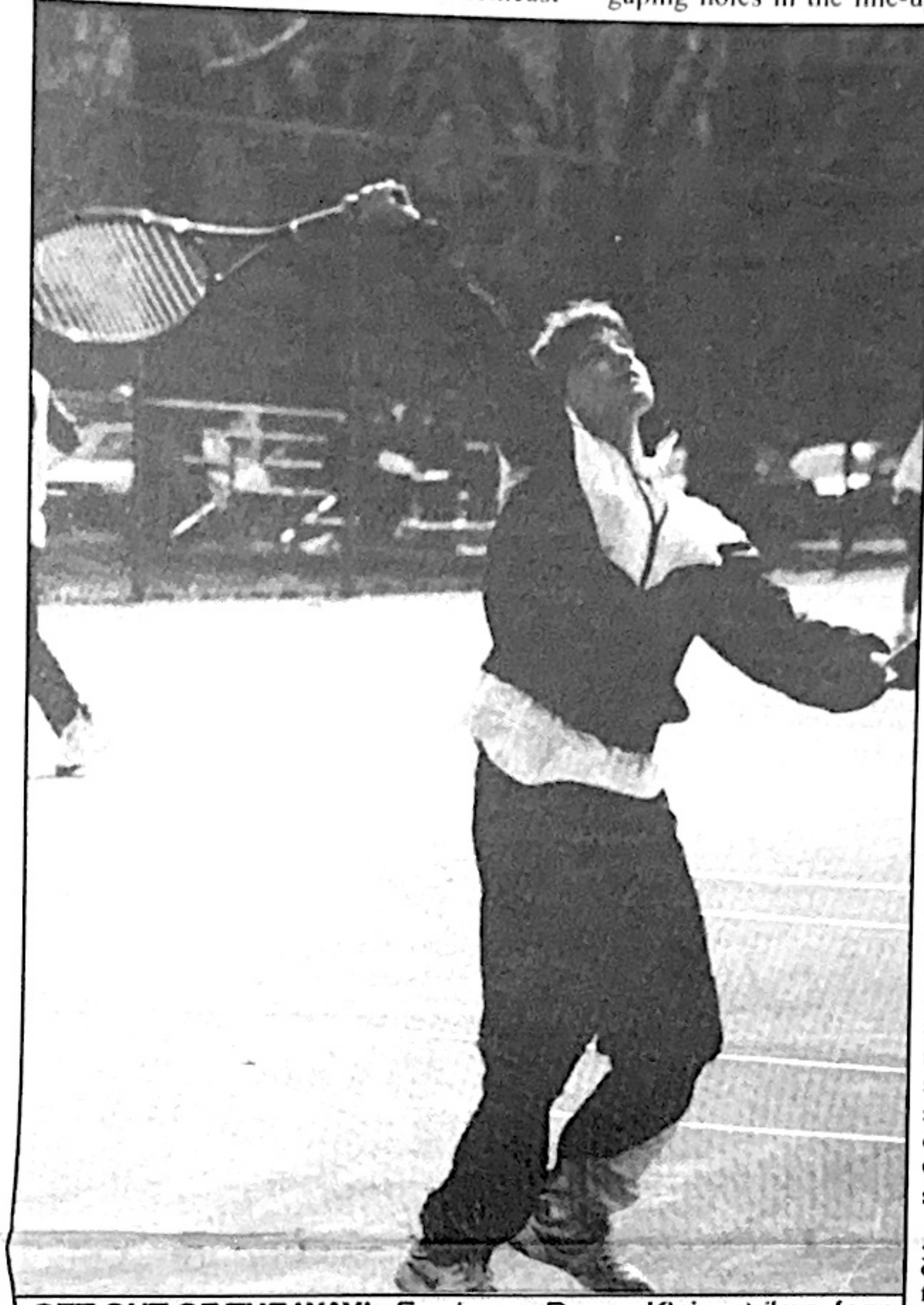
"Even though this is an individual sport, they work as a team and really root for each other," Slawson said.

The team's only loss was against Lexington. Slawson attributes this to the absence of Klein and Young, who missed part of the season with a broken toe.

The team definitely expects its toughest match to be against University School, although because U.S. is in Division II, it does not relate to the state tournament.

"In one sense it doesn't mean anything, but we're putting our pride on the line," Grossman said. *"In the past, tradition has held U.S. above everyone else, but I think in the future Shaker will be a powerhouse."*

> ***"Even though this is an individual sport, they work as a team and really root for each other."***
>
> ***-Coach Allan Slawson***



GET OUT OF THE WAY! Freshman Danny Klein strikes fear into his opponents with his powerful overhand.
Shakerite photo by Cristen Means

Raiders of the Month

BY GEOFF DIETRICH
Staff Reporter

Being Midwest Champions for two consecutive years has had a huge influence on the players and fans of the women's lacrosse team. Along with hard work and dedication, the team's past success can be attributed to the knowledge, good sportsmanship and talent of senior captain Melanie Vail.

Vail has played varsity lacrosse for three years, the last two on these championship teams. Despite the fact that she plays defense, a position usually overshadowed by dominant scorers, Vail has become one of the more recognized members of the team.

"Melanie probably hasn't been recognized much during the season due to the position that she plays. She had perfect attendance and has shown a lot of commitment and stability as one of the team captains this year," coach Liz Wilson said

According to fellow varsity captain senior Clo Ewing, Vail's role on the team, as both a player and a supporter of her teammates, has increased over the years and become an important part of the team's success.

"Melanie is a very consistent player on the field," Ewing said, "Off the field she has just as strong of an impact because of her positive attitude."

For younger players on the team, Vail's influence has really shown through. This is especially so for sophomore Kathryn Tynes, who has nothing but compliments to describe Vail.

"I know Melanie pretty well, and all she does, both on the field and off, is positive," Tynes said. "She's had a big influence on me, as well as many others."

Vail's individual effort and exceptional talent help to guarantee her a future in lacrosse after she graduates. She has recently been accepted to Ohio State, and she plans on attending the school this fall. At OSU Vail expects to continue to play lacrosse and most likely to continue to succeed at it as well.

For the three years Vail has played lacrosse, the team has done superbly. This season seems to be no exception, for the varsity team still holds an undefeated record. The team has tied only one game, and they are on their way to another possible championship. Vail, whose positive attitude and dedication have been an added benefit for all those who play, certainly deserves some of the credit for the team's success.

MELANIE VAIL
Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

BY LEIGH STEVENS
Co-Sports Editor

Playing lacrosse, skiing and playing hockey are just a few things senior David Forker enjoys doing in his spare time.

Forker has been playing lacrosse since the seventh grade, but he has only been playing competitively for four years. These four years have all been spent at the varsity level.

"I started playing lacrosse in seventh grade, but in school I ran track. When I reached the high school I decided to play lacrosse because, unlike track, there is a more definite goal, and it is much more team-oriented," Forker said.

This year's lacrosse team, off to a 6-1 start, is currently among the top eight teams in the state.

"This is the best team that I have played for so far. We are clicking well on the field, and it is paying off with important victories against excellent teams," Forker said.

This year Forker starts at the middle position and is a team captain. He is one of the team's leading scorers.

According to Forker the team goal is to qualify for the "A" bracket in the State Tournament, which is the highest bracket.

"We hope to get there and be successful. At the present time we are in the "A" bracket, but in order to stay there we must continue to win," Forker said.

During his junior year Forker participated in a box lacrosse league. He enjoyed the league because it gave him an opportunity to play longer than the short high school season.

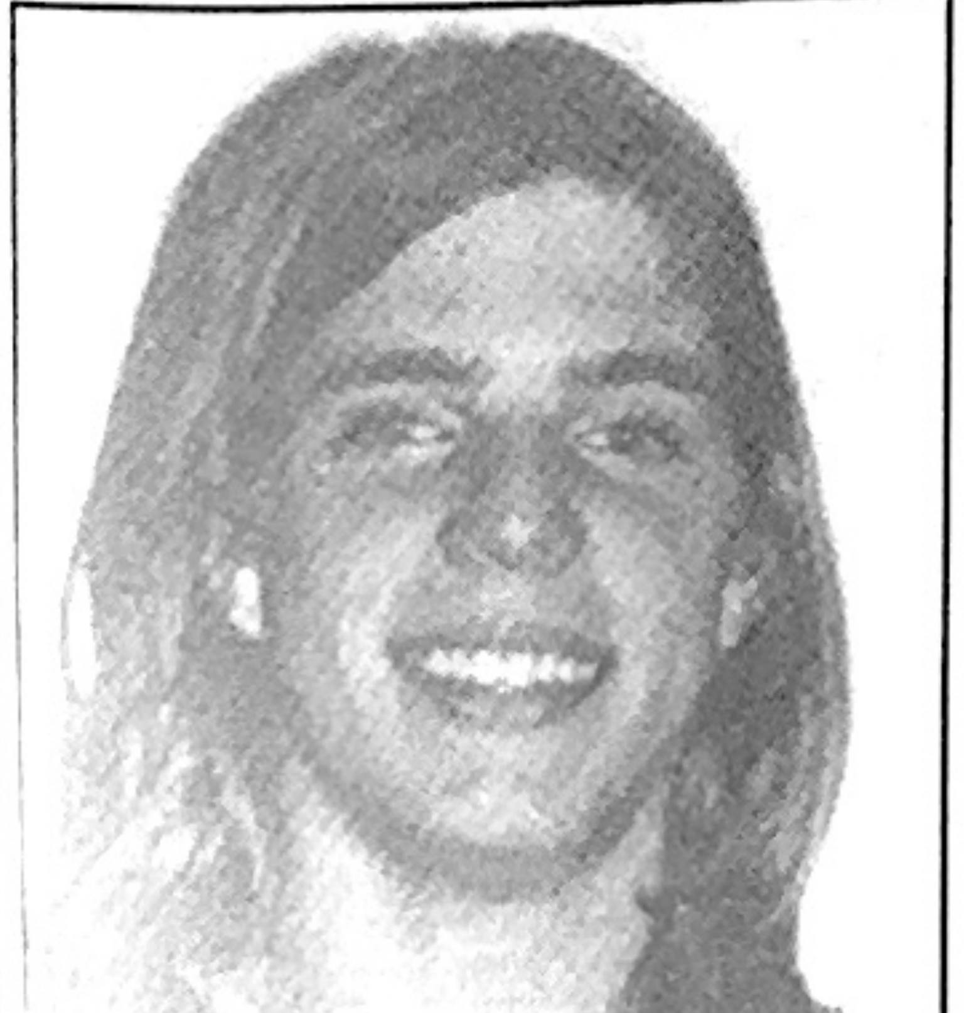
Along with being a varsity lacrosse player, Forker has also lettered in hockey the past three years. Of the two sports, Forker enjoys lacrosse more.

"I like hockey, but I like lacrosse more because it allows me to utilize my athletic talents better. My speed gives me the extra edge that I need on the lacrosse field," Forker said.

Forker enjoys skiing as well and is just as successful. A few years ago he was ranked fourth in the nation in racing.

"I enjoy skiing because it's fast paced, but at the same time I get to enjoy the beauty and serenity of the mountain atmosphere. I hope to live in the mountains when I graduate from college," Forker said.

Next year Forker plans to attend Green Mountain College in Vermont, where he hopes to become a member of both the ski and lacrosse teams.



DAVID FORKER
Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

MAC basketball tourney successful "fun"-raiser

BY TOMMY GELEHRTER
Staff Reporter

"Player's Ball," a team comprised of eight high school students, won last month's Minority Achievement Committee basketball tournament.

The team won the three day tournament by winning four games and not losing any. They faced a seven team field including 60 players.

The double elimination tournament started on April 17 with all teams playing. Player's Ball played three consecutive games on Wednesday and won all three. The trifecta of victories earned the team a spot in the tournament championship on April 19.

According to MAC adviser Mary Lynne McGovern, the tournament is used for the sole purpose of raising money for the Minority Achievement Committee's awards ceremony and to give students who might not have the opportunity a chance to play basketball.

"This is our only fund-raiser of the year. It is very important to use for our awards ceremony," McGovern said. "It also is an excellent opportunity for these kids to spend a few days playing basketball. We provide an opportunity that they might not otherwise have."

Freshman Quenton Bellemy agreed.

"It was great to get out there and play in front of a crowd. I don't get a lot of chances to play basketball at school, and this was an excellent opportunity," Bellemy said.

All players must pay three dollars to play in the tournament, with seven man teams paying $20 to play and nine man teams paying $25. All teams were required to have seven players and were allowed no more than nine. The 20 minute games were played over three days and brought a lot of excitement to the players involved.

"It was a lot of fun; it was also nice to win my second title in the MAC tournament," junior Jeremy Gay said. "Winning my freshman year was nice, but this was better."

Tournament champion Player's Ball included the following eight players: freshman Quenton Bellemy, sophomores Marlon Johnson and James Tolbert, juniors Jeremy Gay, Andre Griffin, and Larry Robertson, and seniors Courtney Waites and Yusef Dejarnette.

Congratulations to the MAC Champions

PLAYER'S BALL

Quenton Bellemy
Marlon Johnson
Yusef Dejarnette
Larry Robertson
Jeremy Gay
James Tolbert
Andre Griffin
Courtney Waites

RED RAIDER WRAP UP

Tennis

RECORD: 12-1
Upcoming: Today after school at Mayfield
➢ Seven of top nine returned
➢ USTA ranks Grossman, Barnes No. 1 and 2 in NE Ohio for boys 14 and under

Baseball

RECORD: 7-4
Upcoming: At Mayfield Hts. today at 4:15 (Stafford Elem.)
➢ First place in Lake Division
➢ 5-1 LEL record
➢ Vying for third straight appearance in Regionals

Softball

RECORD: 4-4
Upcoming: Sectional play began Mon. May 6
➢ Tied at top of Erie Division
➢ Brooks, Mirmelstein, Zagier, Wick are among the leading hitters in the area

Men's Track

RECORD: 5-0
Upcoming: Today, Sat. LEL Championships in Lakewood
➢ First place in Erie Division
➢ 4-0 in dual meets
➢ Arnell, Darnell Brantley "really proven themselves"

Women's Track

RECORD: 6-0
Upcoming: Today, Sat. LEL Championships in Lakewood
➢ 5-0 LEL record
➢ Co-captain Bakara Lewis will carry Olympic torch in Cleveland next month

Men's Lacrosse

RECORD: 7-1
Upcoming: Play day Sat. vs. Cleveland Heights
➢ Ranked among the top eight teams in the state
➢ Beat rival University
➢ Will lose only three starters

Women's Lacrosse

RECORD: 12-0-1
Upcoming: Sectionals began May 6 vs. Laurel
➢ Looking for third straight Midwest championship
➢ Captured league title for third consecutive year

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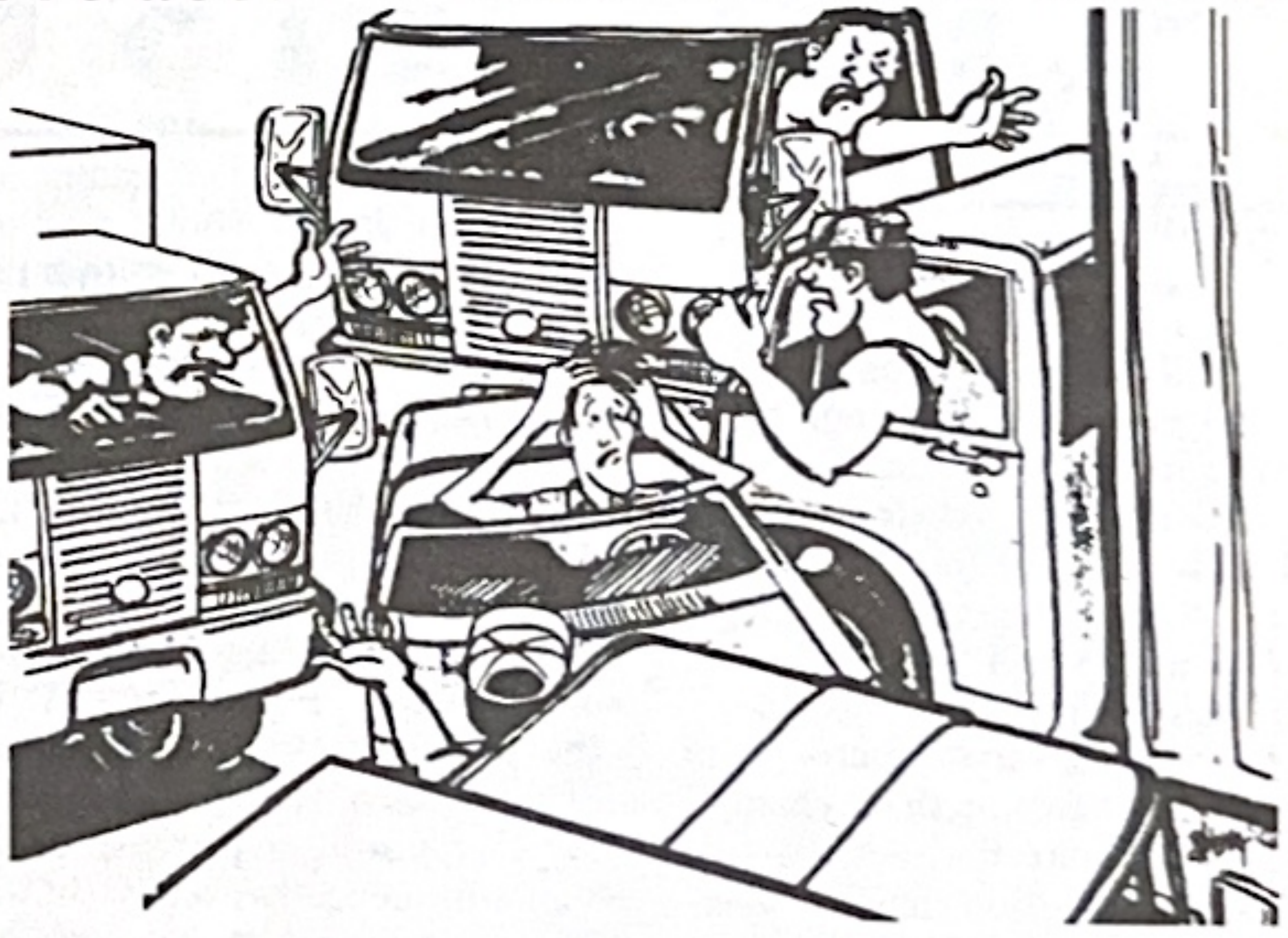

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